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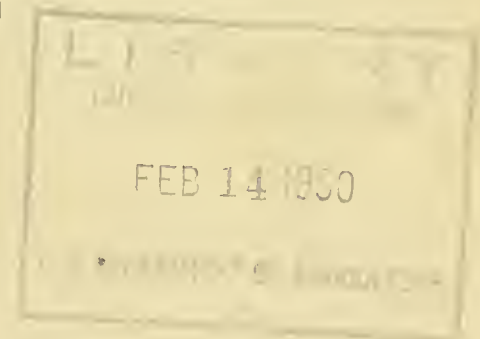
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WORLD FOOD SITUATION 1950



THIS CIRCULAR IS A CONTINUATION OF THE WORLD FOOD SUMMARIES WHICH HAVE BEEN ISSUED BY THE OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS SINCE 1945. IT SUMMARIZES THE FOOD SUPPLY SITUATION IN MAJOR DEFICIT AND SURPLUS PRODUCING AREAS, REVIEWS PRODUCTION AND TRADE OF THE MOST ESSENTIAL FOOD COMMODITIES FOR 1949-50, AND PRESENTS THE OUTLOOK FOR WINTER CROPS IN THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE.

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Approved by Outlook and Situation Board

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World Summary

The world food situation generally continued to improve in 1949 and at the beginning of 1950 consumption of food in most deficit areas was at the highest level since the war. There were many countries, however, particularly in the Far East where consumption levels were still considerably below prewar. Several European countries were able to remove rationing during 1949 or to reduce materially the number of items which continued to be rationed. The average diet also was improved by increased consumption of the more desirable foods such as fats, meats, and dairy products, but the proportion of these foods in the average diet is still relatively low.

Food production in the 1949-50 consumption year is expected to be only slightly below that of the previous season with moderate declines in the production of cereals, rice, potatoes and sugar, being largely offset by increases in fats, dairy products, meats and fruits. In terms of calories, production of the major food products was about one percent less than in the previous season but about 2 percent above the prewar average (see table following). With an increase in population of over 10 percent since prewar, the current lower per capita output is being offset to some extent by more careful utilization of available supplies and consumption of more cereals and potatoes as food and less used as feed in the production of livestock products.

Except the Far East, world production of food and feed products has generally recovered sufficiently during the past two years in most areas so that by the beginning of 1950 the main problem is not so much one of producing sufficient supplies to meet world consumption needs, but rather one of trade. This problem has been manifested by growing surpluses in countries such as the so-called "hard currency" exporting nations during the period, though consumption needs in the deficit areas are not yet as fully met as before the war.

The condition of crops sown for harvest in 1950 is reported generally good in most countries of the Northern Hemisphere. Weather in Europe has been unusually mild and has permitted late sowings where necessary. The area planted to winter wheat is reported slightly larger than last year, rainfall has been plentiful and crop development is generally reported very good. In the Soviet Union there were reports of a dry fall and snow cover has been light in a number of western regions. Winter wheat in the United States is developing well and prospects are for a good crop despite a 15 percent decline in the area seeded. The acreage planted to winter wheat in India and Japan is slightly higher than last year and developments to date are good, although more rain is needed in India. If present indications for 1950 production are borne out, a further improvement in world food supplies is likely during the coming year. It should be kept in mind, however, that while total world production of food would be above prewar, per capita availabilities would still not be up to prewar levels.

The most significant change in the world food picture during 1949 was

the continued recovery in Europe where production of both breadgrains and coarse grains as well as that of most other basic foods, except potatoes, was higher than in 1948. Dry weather during the growing season lowered forage production but did not seriously affect the continued recovery in livestock numbers which were significantly higher in 1949 than in 1948, although still well below the prewar averages.

Decreases in imports of breadgrains are forecast for western Europe with the emphasis shifting to feedstuffs and animal products. With average weather conditions in 1950, the trend toward better balanced diets, through larger consumption of livestock products and fats is likely to continue, although the level of consumption in terms of calories per capita will probably remain slightly below prewar.

Continued improvement in the food situation is foreseen for the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe in both production and consumption. Collections of grain from the 1949 harvest exceeded those of a year ago but commitments for export have been smaller.

Wheat production in both Turkey and Iran, was sharply reduced by adverse weather, but in the other Middle Eastern countries the food picture has generally improved. All countries in this area will have available increased amounts of their specialty products for export during 1949-50.

A widespread drought throughout most of central and southern Africa caused a sharp reduction in domestic food supplies which has had to be made up, to a large extent, by increases in imports. Further improvement in exports of such special food crops as cocoa, coffee, and vegetable oils or oil-seeds, however, are foreseen for 1950.

In spite of a generally unfavorable crop year in China during 1949 and the adverse effects of political developments on food production in China, Burma, and French Indo-China, there was significant improvement during the year in the over-all food situation of the Far East. Improved production in India and Pakistan raised to some extent the very low consumption levels in those countries and contributed to increased economic stability. Economic difficulties between the two countries prevented even quicker recovery. Increased domestic production in Japan will be augmented by the first postwar imports of rice from South Korea where net imports of cereals are no longer necessary because of improvement in domestic production. Although the reduction in rice production in Burma and French Indo-China, due to unsettled conditions, is partially offset by a larger than average crop in Thailand, the total exportable supplies from southeast Asia are only about one-third of the prewar average of 6.3 million short tons. Even in Thailand, where the crop is 17 percent above prewar, exports will be only three-fourths of prewar because of the increase in population.

Of the major food exporting countries of the world (United States, Canada, Cuba, Australia, New Zealand and Argentina), Australia was the only country where crops generally during 1949 were better than a year earlier. All countries of North America harvested smaller crops than during 1948 and in Argentina the late crops may be seriously reduced by summer drought. The combined production of food crops from these areas, however, will be ample to meet all commitments until the 1950 harvest in North America and Europe. In all of these countries, meat production is on the increase from

the reduced levels of the early postwar years. Except for Australia and New Zealand, which are in the so-called "sterling bloc", all the major food exporting countries are having difficulty in varying degrees with the problem of shortages of hard currency in the countries where the demand for their food exports is greatest.

Early indications are that the changes in the production of most basic foods in 1949 was slight. World rice production is nearly 3 percent below last year but slightly above average. Exportable supplies for 1950 are also down slightly and world trade in rice is expected to be less than half of prewar.

For the second year in a row, world production of wheat and rye was good and exceeded the prewar average, in spite of declines in production in the United States and China. World production of feedgrains, particularly corn, was similarly good and should contribute to continued recovery in the world livestock situation during 1950. However, the unfavorable prospects for the corn crop in Argentina, formerly the world's leading exporter, may result in little or no exports of feedgrains from that country during the coming year.

Raw sugar production at 36.6 million tons was slightly less than last year but still almost 6 percent above the prewar average. Supplies of sugar are ample for world needs and rationing of this commodity has been abolished in most countries.

World potato production was well below both 1948 and prewar but the quantity available for food in 1949-50 is not expected to decline materially since large amounts of the previous years' production were fed to animals.

Production of pulses is only slightly below last year and more than 15 percent above the prewar average.

Supplies of edible fats and oils, including palm oil, were 7 percent higher than 1948 and slightly above prewar for the first time, but increases have not occurred uniformly in all types. Production in several major exporting areas, however, continues below prewar and exports are not expected to equal those of last year and will remain considerably below prewar.

Supplies of most fruits are far above prewar and higher than last year; international trade in these commodities is seriously hampered by the dollar shortage.

Recovery of livestock numbers, particularly in Europe and Australia, continued from the postwar low. World production of meat was above prewar for the first time. Similarly, production of milk, particularly in Europe, continued its improvement; combined production in important countries was below the postwar peak in 1947, largely because of decreases in North America.

The index of calorie production at the bottom of the following table provides a rough measure of the gradual improvement of world food production in the postwar years. Although production, in terms of calories, in 1949-50 may be slightly below 1948-49, the carry-over from last year's crops and the building up of food reserves generally, has permitted a continuation of improvement in the food situation and if average weather conditions prevail, current prospects point to further improvement in 1950.

World Production of Selected Food Products, Average 1935-39
and Annual 1946-1949

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39 ^{a/}	1946	1947	1948 ^{a/}	1949
	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions
Food products:	:	:				
Rice.....	: Bushels	: <u>a/</u> 7,322	7,065	7,102	7,579	7,390
Wheat.....	: "	: 6,010	5,785	5,815	6,385	6,185
Rye.....	: "	: 1,730	1,451	1,490	1,665	1,655
Sugar, raw...	: Sh. tons	: 34.7	31.3	33.9	37.2	36.7
Edible vegetable oils.	: " "	: 8.3	8.0	<u>a/</u> 9.2	8.9	9.3
Palm oils....	: " "	: 2.7	1.5	2.2	2.2	2.4
Animal fats..	: " "	: 8.1	6.8	7.3	7.5	8.1
Marine oils..	: " "	: .9	.3	<u>a/</u> .6	.6	.7
Potatoes.....	: Bushels	: <u>a/</u> 8,274	7,132	7,468	8,764	7,968
Pulses ^{b/c/} ..	: Bags	: 268	290	281	333	332
Deciduous fruits.. ^{f/}	: Sh. tons	: 22	<u>a/</u> 21.6	<u>a/</u> 21.9	19.4	22.9
Citrus fruits	: " "	: 9.6	<u>a/</u> 12.7	<u>a/</u> 13.5	12.7	11.8
Ment ^{c/}	: Pounds	: <u>a/</u> 67,000	61,900	65,900	64,700	67,600
Milk ^{c/e/}	: "	: 267,000 <u>a/d/a/</u> 325,000	<u>a/</u> 327,000	267,000	278,000	
Feed crops:	:	:				
Corn.....	: Bushels	: 4,750	5,277	4,826	5,990	5,680
Oats.....	: "	: 4,364	3,960	3,722	4,200	3,980
Barley.....	: "	: <u>a/</u> 2,358	2,085	2,185	2,380	2,250
Total percent of 1935-39....	: Percent	: 100	94	97	103	102

^{a/} Revised.

^{b/} Haricot beans, peas, lentils, chickpeas (garbanzos).

^{c/} In the most important producing countries only.

^{d/} 1934-38 average.

^{e/} Omitting Soviet Union, India and Germany.

^{f/} Includes apples, pears, peaches, apricots, cherries, plums and prunes.

EUROPE 1/

Food Situation in the Consumption Year 1949-50

The food situation in Europe continued to improve during 1949 and is expected to show further recovery in 1950 if crop conditions remain favorable. Some increase in fall-sown crops for harvest next summer has been reported. Crop conditions in midwinter were generally satisfactory and fertilizers, machinery, and other farm supplies are increasingly available.

Growing conditions in 1949 varied considerably for individual crops, but over-all food supplies benefited from moderately increased production of the all-important grain crop. Production of bread grains and coarse grains was larger in 1949 than in 1948, the increases being attributable mainly to better yields. On the other hand, the 1949 potato crop was considerably below that of 1948 when yields were above average. Production of sugar in 1949 continued at approximately the 1948 level. Output of vegetable oils increased substantially in 1949 due largely to a sharp increase in the olive oil crop in Italy, Spain, Portugal, and Greece, where the harvest was very poor in 1948. Forage yields varied; decreases in production of fodder roots were reported for France, the United Kingdom, and western Germany, with damage to hay and pastures from drought reported in parts of both western and eastern Europe.

In comparing 1949 crop production with prewar, output of bread grains and potatoes was still only 92 and 87 percent, respectively, of the 1935-39 average. In the case of coarse grains, barley alone attained prewar production in 1949, oats and corn production reaching only 85 and 95 percent, respectively, of an average prewar crop. Sugar production in both 1948 and 1949 was about equal to prewar. The output of vegetable oils from the 1949-50 harvest is estimated to be much larger than the prewar average.

A greater output of livestock and livestock products in 1949-50 is expected to make an important contribution toward increasing food availabilities for the year. Livestock numbers early in 1949 were significantly higher than in 1948, continuing the recovery from the depressed postwar levels. The number of cattle on hand increased about 3 percent over 1948. The number of hogs and chickens is estimated to have increased substantially. Sheep numbers rose almost 4 percent. Despite these increases, 1949 cattle numbers were still below the prewar average by 6 percent, sheep numbers by 11 percent, and hog numbers by a significant margin.

It is anticipated that in 1950 most countries will produce more meat, milk, and animal fats than in 1949, which in turn was well above 1948. A substantial increase in egg production is also considered likely. Production of meat, milk, and animal fats in 1950 will, however, still be lower than average prewar production.

1/ Exclusive of the Soviet Union.

Gross food production for the 1949-50 consumption year, in terms of calories, will probably be slightly greater than in 1948-49 and approximately equal to prewar. It must be borne in mind that the European population in 1949-50 is estimated at about 6 percent above prewar.

Food imports from outside Europe should be about the same as last year, although there will be shifts among commodities. Bread grain imports will probably be substantially lower in 1949-50 than in 1948-49, but imports of meat and fats are expected to be somewhat greater. In addition, imports of feedstuffs are likely to be larger in 1949-50 than in 1948-49 and much greater than in 1947-48. The estimated increase in European production in 1949 is not affecting imports significantly, because of the trend toward better-balanced diets and the increase in population.

Food consumption in terms of calories per capita is likely to be slightly higher for Europe as a whole (exclusive of the Soviet Union) in 1949-50 than in 1948-49, when there was a marked caloric increase over 1947-48. However, the level in 1949-50 will still be slightly below the prewar average. In the ERP countries of Europe per capita caloric consumption for the prewar period, 1948-49, and 1949-50 is estimated at 2,900, 2,775, and 2,800 calories respectively. In the non-ERP countries (excluding the USSR but including eastern Germany and Spain), the estimates are 2,875 calories for the prewar average, 2,650 calories for 1948-49, and about 2,650 calories for 1949-50. Declines in the level of consumption of Rumania and Bulgaria are believed to have about offset increases in some other countries of eastern Europe in the current consumption year. Most European countries have by now attained a caloric consumption high enough above minimum requirements to permit consideration of aspects of the food situation other than energy intake alone. Increased food availabilities during 1949-50 have, therefore, been reflected primarily in qualitative improvements in the diet and in the relaxation of state controls over food and agriculture.

It is probable that 1949-50 will show greater per capita consumption of meat, milk, fats, and cheese than in 1948-49. In many countries, however, per capita consumption of these products will still be measurably below the prewar average. It is also likely that there will be a decline in per capita intake of such starchy foods as grain and potatoes from the abnormally high consumption levels brought about by the war and its aftermath. The extraction rate of flour was lowered in several countries during 1949 and raised only in Rumania.

There has been a strong trend away from rationing and price controls during the past year. France, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, and Hungary no longer ration any food items. Other European countries still continue to ration foodstuffs in varying degrees, although even in these countries the number of items rationed decreased during 1949.

Situation by countries

Western Europe (France, the British Isles, Low Countries, and Switzerland)

Food supplies in France in 1949-50 are expected to be about as large as in 1948-49 when food consumption averaged around 95 percent of the relatively high prewar level. The harvest in 1949 was not so good as in the preceding year, largely because of dry weather in late spring and summer. Though wheat, barley, and oilseeds yielded well, most crops, and especially potatoes, fodder roots, and hay, suffered from drought. Since the prospective increase in imported feedstuffs may not fully compensate for the decline in domestically produced feed, the expansion in output of livestock products is likely to be checked. However, it is estimated that the decline in food production can be more or less offset by drawing on stocks; so larger food imports will not be needed in order to maintain the 1948-49 consumption level. During the last half of 1948-49 bread and dairy products were rationed, and at the end of 1949 the remaining rations - sugar, rice, table oil and coffee - were also abolished.

If French North Africa is considered along with France, the picture does not change materially. French North Africa had another good grain crop in 1949. It should be about self-sufficient in wheat in 1949-50, and like last year, have an export surplus of coarse grains. Olive oil output promises to be unusually large in Tunisia, but the export surplus may not be enough to offset imports of peanut and other oils into Algeria and Morocco which are normally on a deficit basis for fats. Substantial quantities of fruits, vegetables, and wine will, as usual, be available for export, mainly to France.

In the United Kingdom prospects are for some further improvement in the food situation. Consumption in terms of calories is likely to reach or exceed the prewar level in 1949-50, though the diet, as in most of Europe, will still include more grain products and potatoes and less meat and fat than before the war. Food-crop output will be smaller than last year. A decline in acreage under grains, notably wheat, was only partly offset by an increase in yields per acre, and the weather was unfavorable for sugar beets, potatoes, vegetables, fodder roots and pastures. However, with home-grown feeds supplemented by prospective imports and stocks on hand, the output of livestock products should continue to increase. In addition to feed, the United Kingdom will need to import some 60 percent of its food supply if per capita consumption in 1949-50 is to reach the prewar level. Most basic foodstuffs other than bread and potatoes are still rationed, and prices of essential foods are still held below free-market levels through price controls and subsidies.

Food consumption in Ireland in 1949-50 should be about the same as in 1948-49, or somewhat above the prewar level. Crop production declined in 1949, largely as a result of a heavy decrease in wheat acreage, though adverse weather conditions also reduced sugar beet and potato yields. However, it is expected that output of livestock products, which is partly based on imported feed, will increase in 1949-50, making possible an increase in exports of meat, dairy products, and eggs. Ireland continues to ration bread

made of 75-percent-extraction flour, sugar, butter, and tea, these rations being sold at subsidized prices. Unrestricted purchases of bread made of 85-percent-extraction flour, of sugar, and of tea are permitted at unsubsidized prices.

Food consumption in Belgium continues equal to the prewar level and is actually of somewhat better quality. Consumption of grains is appreciably lower, and that of eggs, milk, butter, fruits, and vegetables higher than before the war. Meat consumption is at the prewar level. No food rationing remains in Belgium. Both crop and livestock production are also roughly equal to that of the 1933-37 period. Because of better utilization of domestic feedstuffs, livestock products are now being produced with considerably smaller imports of feedstuffs than was the case before the war.

Due to the improved supply position and the desire to equalize conditions between the Netherlands and Belgium-Luxembourg, in preparation for the Benelux Union, food rationing was abandoned in the Netherlands during 1949. The admixture of potato flour in the bread to stretch the supply of grains has also been discontinued. While the food-consumption level in terms of calories is equal to that of prewar years, consumption of meat and eggs has not yet reached its prewar magnitude. Good crops and more efficient feeding practices have made it possible, as in Belgium, to produce livestock products in approximately prewar amounts with considerably smaller feed imports.

Consumption in Switzerland continues well above the European average, with little change expected from 1948-49 levels. Food production will probably be fairly well maintained in 1949-50, although in 1949, for the fourth successive year, acreage in cultivated crops declined, falling to 75 percent of the 1945 peak but still surpassing the prewar average crop acreage by 33 percent. The crop picture in 1949 was varied - grain production was the same as in 1948, whereas the potato and fruit crops were sharply reduced due to unfavorable weather. Meat and dairy production in 1949-50 will probably exceed that of 1948-49. Production and per capita consumption of meat and milk are, however, still below the prewar average. All food rationing was discontinued during 1948-49.

Northern Europe (Scandinavian countries and Finland)

The 1949 crop was very good in Denmark and in the latter part of the year livestock production reached a level of around 95 percent of prewar. Meat has recently been derationed but fats and sugar remain rationed in order to assure supplies of butter and sugar for export. The satisfactory food-consumption level of around 3,200 calories per person per day is only a few percent below prewar consumption. The reduced consumption of sugar and fats is in large measure counterbalanced by increased consumption of grains, potatoes, vegetables, and fruit, as well as milk and cheese.

Though average daily consumption in terms of calories is fully up to the prewar level in Norway, and there has been qualitative improvement in the diet during the last year, consumption of meat, eggs, sugar and fruit remains below the 1933-37 average. Fish consumption is high. Livestock

production is increasing and has surpassed its prewar magnitude in the dairy sector. Crop yields were generally below normal in 1949. Sugar is not produced in Norway and imports are kept below normal requirements. Bread grains are imported in sufficient amounts to allow unrationed consumption. Sugar, fats, and meat are still subject to rationing.

Both production and consumption of food are satisfactory in Sweden, with average consumption of livestock products, fruit, and vegetables higher than the corresponding prewar figures. Daily calorie intake is well over 3,000 calories per person. There is no longer any food rationing. Production of butter, cheese, and eggs is reaching proportions that exceed domestic demand. The most striking development is the continued expansion of the acreage in oilseeds, particularly rape, which was negligible before the war. Production in 1949 came to nearly 200,000 tons and the fall-seeded acreage is so large that an export surplus may develop in 1950.

In Finland, despite decreased crop production in 1949, the food-supply situation is quite satisfactory, but per capita consumption in 1949-50 is likely to continue at levels somewhat below the relatively high prewar average. Both grain and potato crops suffered damage due to heavy frosts in July and August. The potato harvest was more than one-third below the 1948 level. Both bread grain and coarse grain production in 1949 declined moderately. It may, therefore, not be possible to decrease wheat imports from the Soviet Union as previously planned. However, as a result of relatively good forage crops the last 2 years and increased supplies of feed concentrates, production of livestock products has been increasing with pork output exceeding, and milk output approaching, prewar levels. The only foodstuffs presently rationed in Finland are margarine, sugar, and coffee.

Central and eastern Europe (Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, and Poland)

Western Germany had its best postwar harvest in 1949. So good were bread grain yields that production exceeded the prewar average, though the acreage was still well below prewar. Output of coarse grains, oilseeds, and hay also showed marked increases. Growing conditions were not so favorable as last year for sugar beets, potatoes, or fodder roots, but only fodder root production was below the postwar average. Since domestically produced feeds are to be supplemented by substantial imports in 1949-50, the livestock industry should make further rapid progress toward recovery. With the sharp increase in food production and with programmed food imports, average per capita consumption is expected to increase in 1949-50 to 90 percent of the average prevailing before the war. The diet will still be heavily weighted with grain and potatoes. While more meat and fats will be available, per capita consumption of these commodities will probably be only two-thirds or less of prewar. During 1949 the small meat ration was more than doubled, the cheese ration doubled, and the fat ration nearly doubled. By June, bread, cereal preparations, sugar, and milk were the only other rationed foods. Ration controls deteriorated rapidly, and at the beginning of 1950 all food, except sugar was announced derationed in western Germany as from March 1. Rationing continues in force in Berlin.

The improvement in the food situation in western Germany does not appear to have been paralleled in eastern Germany. Rations remained about the same during the first 10 months of 1949, and these rations were not always met. While old potatoes were derationed in May, new potatoes were subjected to rationing. At the same time, more food appeared to be available at high prices in the "free shops." Reports indicate that crop output was larger in 1949 than in 1948 and that the livestock industry continues to show recovery from the postwar low. How far the increase in food production will be reflected in consumption depends on the amount reserved for exports and stocks. It seems likely, however, that both the quantity and quality of the food supply per capita in 1949-50 will remain well below the levels in western Germany. In prewar it is believed that average per capita caloric intake in eastern Germany was not greatly different from that of western Germany. Therefore, in comparing present consumption with prewar, the level in eastern Germany is relatively lower than that in western Germany.

In Austria, as the result of an excellent crop year, food production in 1949-50 is expected to be about 10 percent greater than in 1948-49. Although caloric intake may not rise during 1949-50, the over-all food situation will likely be materially better than in the preceding year. Consumption of meat, milk, eggs, and cheese will probably be higher than in 1948-49, but that of potatoes and bread lower than the recent abnormally high levels. The extraction rate for wheat has been cut from an estimated 85 percent to 80 percent. Many food items were derationed during 1949; only meat, fats, sugar, and milk are still rationed. Most significant of all is the expected decreased dependence in 1949-50 upon imports of food, which may decline by 15 percent from 1948-49 levels. However, both production and consumption of food and feed are still substantially below prewar levels. Livestock numbers are still depressed in comparison with prewar averages. However, they are increasing gradually, since supplies of home-produced and imported feed are increasing.

The 1949-50 food situation in Czechoslovakia is expected to be considerably improved over 1948-49. This is the second successive year of substantially increased food production due largely to good grain crops. Production in 1949-50 exceeded that of 1948-49 for all important grain crops, and in the case of wheat, rye, barley, and oats, the average prewar yields were all reportedly surpassed. Sugar production in 1949 exceeded the prewar average and should enable Czechoslovakia to continue its large sugar exports. Bread and potatoes were derationed in October 1949. The extraction rate of wheat and rye was reduced from approximately 80 percent to 73 percent and 70 percent, respectively. Livestock numbers have continued to increase. Hog numbers are now reputed to be greater than in the prewar period, but cattle numbers are still significantly below prewar.

The food situation in Poland is likely to be about the same as in 1948-49, with per capita consumption, in terms of calories, close to the prewar average. Poland had another good grain crop in 1949, though rain at harvest-time caused considerable sprouting. Sugar and potato production is reported larger than in 1948, and an export surplus of all these crops should again be available. Poland is also attempting, with some success, to promote exports of livestock products. Special efforts were made to encourage meat

production, following the acute temporary shortage last year. Arrangements were also made to import fresh meat, though at the same time bacon and ham exports were continued. Effective June 15, 1949, the number of meatless days was reduced from 3 to 2 per week, and as of September 27, meat sales, at least in Warsaw, were permitted every day except Sundays and holidays.

Mediterranean Europe (Portugal, Spain, Italy, and Greece)

Food consumption per capita in Portugal in 1949-50 as in 1948-49 is expected to be close to the prewar average which, however, was apparently the lowest in Europe. Portugal must again rely heavily on grain imports, since abnormally dry weather caused another poor grain crop in 1949. Corn, rice, and potato production dropped, largely because late sowings were reduced due to uncertainties over water for irrigation. However, a large output of olive oil is in prospect for 1949-50, in contrast to last year when output was unusually small. Food consumption in Portugal has been virtually freed from ration restrictions. Bread rationing was abandoned late in 1948, without official announcement. Throughout 1949 locally processed brown sugar and unpolished domestic rice were still rationed, but white sugar and polished rice could be purchased freely by those who could afford to pay the high prices.

In Spain a continuation of the unsatisfactory food situation that has long prevailed is in prospect for 1949-50. Last year's drought which continued through winter and into spring was broken in time to prevent a disastrously low harvest in 1949. In fact, output of most crops reached or somewhat exceeded the 1948 level, while olive oil prospects are much better than last year when an unusually small quantity was produced. But food production in both years was well below the 1931-35 average, and there is little likelihood that imports will be more than enough to raise per capita consumption in 1949-50 to 85 percent of the 1931-35 level. Recent exchange difficulties in securing supplies from Argentina tend to support this assumption. The bread ration has been only 150 grams daily for the third (and by far the largest) category of consumers. In some provinces in recent months, the usual olive oil ration of one-fourth liter weekly has frequently been halved. Potato and codfish rations, on the other hand, are greater than a year ago.

The food situation in Italy in 1949-50 should be a little better than in 1948-49 when per capita consumption, in terms of calories, rose almost to the prewar average - an average, it may be noted, which was low compared to that in more northern European countries. Domestic production will furnish a larger share of food consumed this year than last, largely because of an increase in wheat and olive oil output in 1949. Most crops other than potatoes and legumes also were larger, and output of livestock products is expected to continue its upward trend. Nevertheless, substantial quantities of food, notably wheat and fats, will have to be imported in 1949-50 if consumption is to approach the prewar level. In August 1949 all food rationing was abandoned when bread and "pasta" were derationed.

In Greece, as in Portugal, food supplies per capita in 1949-50 are expected to be about as large as in 1948-49 and close to the relatively low prewar

average. Greece also will need to import more grain this year than last to offset the decline in production for, while growing conditions were favorable in the spring and summer, dry weather earlier in the season, together with guerrilla activity, resulted in a sharp decline in acreage sown to grain. On the other hand, olive oil output, which dropped to exceptionally low levels in 1948-49, promises to reach record proportions in 1949-50 and yield an export surplus. Production of fruits and vegetables also increased. It is to be presumed that, with the recent cessation of guerrilla warfare, food supplies can be more equitably distributed than in the past years. Bread is still rationed.

Southeastern Europe (Hungary, Yugoslavia, Rumania, and Bulgaria)

Weather conditions in 1949 were favorable to crop production in Yugoslavia and Hungary, but unfavorable in Bulgaria and especially Rumania. In the latter two countries, the harvest of both bread grains and coarse grains was less than in 1948. The total 1949 production of all grains is estimated at nearly the 1935-39 average in Bulgaria, but at one-fourth below in Rumania.

In Yugoslavia the production of both bread grains and coarse grains was above 1948, with total grain production reported slightly above the 1935-39 average. Hungary indicated 1949 bread grain production above 1948, coarse grains slightly below. According to these estimates, total 1949 Hungarian grain production was still 5 percent below the 1935-39 average.

Grain supplies in Hungary seem to be large enough to permit exports: some commitments have been made for 1950 for both bread and coarse grains. In Yugoslavia export commitments were made for corn only. In Rumania the grain appears to be short even for domestic consumption, while in Bulgaria wheat is already being imported from the Soviet Union.

Sugar production in southeastern Europe is still increasing, and some exports of sugar from Hungary are expected. Oilseed production in 1949 remained about the same as in 1948, and has more than doubled since the prewar period, due to the emphasis placed by the various governments' programs on expansion of the acreage under so-called industrial crops.

The general food situation in southeastern Europe shows considerable variation from country to country, with the lowest level of consumption recorded in Rumania and the highest in Hungary. In Rumania the wheat-flour extraction rate was raised from 85 to 94 percent in July, at which time the addition of corn meal to the bread formula was discontinued, indicating that corn had to be conserved as well as wheat. Since February 1949, when the effect of the winter drought on the wheat crop became evident, bread had contained from 15 to 20 percent corn meal. In Bulgaria the basic daily bread ration was cut from 450 to 400 grams and the price was increased. Beginning January 1950, bread ration cards are to be distributed each month, rather than quarterly, indicating the desire of the government for closer control. Sugar rationing was discontinued in September, but the price was increased to about double the former cost of rationed sugar.

In Yugoslavia the admixture of 20 percent of corn or other coarse grain in bread was discontinued in August, but bread rations were reduced. Sugar rations were increased in April, but since then shortages of sugar have been reported in the Yugoslav press. Lard rations were reduced in October, but the public was advised that withheld quantities were to be supplied at a later time to be announced. Yugoslavia, which before the war exported lard and hogs, imported lard from the United States in 1949. The short lard supply in Yugoslavia is partly due to the discouraging effect on the Yugoslav hog farmers of the drastic requisitioning of pigs by the government in the fall of 1948.

In Hungary rationing of bread was abolished in September and that of flour, which was the last item rationed, was discontinued in December. The flour extraction rates during the second half of 1949 were reported to have been reduced from 80 to 75 percent for wheat and from 72 to 70 percent for rye. Price cuts for pork and lard during November indicate a better pork supply for Hungary, which is also evidenced by export commitments to Austria for the present year.

Production outlook for 1950

The sowing and early growth of winter crops this fall have taken place under conditions possibly more favorable than any since the war ended. There is no part of Europe where weather is causing serious complaint. Although a large part of the continent suffered early fall dryness, widespread rains followed, and provided adequate moisture to insure germination and a good start for the fall-sown crops. The early dry spell enabled timely completion of field tasks, and the generally abundant later rains combined with mild temperatures have also encouraged growth of late pasture. Greater susceptibility to possible winterkill exists, however, particularly in the case of oilseeds, because of too advanced vegetation.

There is also a greater availability of agricultural supplies and machinery than at any time in the postwar period. Supplies of commercial fertilizer in Europe west of the iron curtain are expected to continue at levels much higher than the prewar average. With production of animal manure gradually approaching that before the war, total availability of plant nutrients should exceed the prewar standard. East of the iron curtain, too, there is some likelihood of increased availability of plant nutrients in 1949-50 as compared to 1948-49, although it will still probably fall below that area's prewar average. The situation in most of Europe is also more favorable than last year with respect to tractors, other agricultural machinery, high-quality seed, and other farm supplies.

Adequate information is lacking as to the extent of fall plantings. Preliminary indications point to a 500,000-acre increase over the wheat area sown last fall in the United Kingdom. In France, however, a decline of 300,000 acres in wheat plantings was reported as of December 1, 1949, compared with a year ago. There is a likelihood, though, of further sowing after that date. Increases and decreases of minor magnitude have been forecast for the winter bread grain acreage in several of the smaller countries.

Plans in most countries east of the iron curtain call for an increased acreage in fall-sown grain. Official statements indicate, as usual, fulfillment of the plans. An increase in the winter oilseed acreage has been reported for France and Sweden, with a particularly substantial rise shown for the latter.

SOVIET UNION

The post-war recovery of Russian agriculture continued in 1949, even though weather conditions were unfavorable especially during the harvest season for small grains. While reliable information on food conditions in many important regions is lacking, indications are that the food situation has improved, especially compared with the stringent war and early post-war years. This improvement is reflected in the greater availability of bread, the principal item of the Russian diet, and a number of other staples. An adverse factor in the food supply situation is the inefficiency and inadequacy of the state retail distribution system, on which the urban population mainly relies for its purchases of foodstuffs.

A reduction in retail prices of food products sold in government stores was ordered on March 1, 1949, ranging from 10 percent on bread, flour, macaroni, sausages, fish, butter, pastry and tobacco to 15 percent for wines and cognacs, 20 percent for cheese, 25 percent for distilled liqueurs, 28 percent for vodka and 30 percent for salt. However, prices of such important items as milk and meat were not reduced, and current prices of foodstuffs in the Soviet Union are still much higher than before the war. For instance, the price of a kilogram (2.2 lbs.) of black bread was reduced from 3 rubles ^{1/} to 2.7 rubles in March 1949. This compares with a cost of one ruble prior to the abolition of rationing and the devaluation of Soviet currency in December 1947, and 0.85 rubles in January 1938 and 1940. While the price of bread is now more than three times the prewar price, the comparable increase in earnings of the average worker was probably less than twofold.

The total area of **all crops** for the 1949 harvest increased by about 15 million acres as against 1948 and is around 345 million acres, compared with 378 million acres in 1938 and the 1950 goal of 392 million acres. Much of the increase in acreage in 1949 was in wheat, which suffered a drastic decline during the war. Among other crops, potatoes, fibers (cotton, flax and hemp), sunflower seed, grasses, root fodder and silage crops also showed increases in areas.

Excessive rains during the summer months of 1949 led to harvesting difficulties in a number of regions, due to wet, lodged and weedy grain, uneven or late ripening, and shattering. Large crop losses were reported,

^{1/} The value of the ruble cannot be stated definitely in terms of U.S. currency. The official exchange rate of the ruble has been fixed at 18.9 cents United States currency. The so-called "diplomatic" rate is 12 1/2 cents. Neither of these rates represents the true purchasing power of the ruble, nor reflects its depreciation during the war.

thus reducing the actual "barn" yield of small grains -- wheat, rye, oats and barley. The quality of the grain doubtless was also adversely affected. While lower yields are indicated for small grains in 1949, yields of corn appear to have been higher than in 1948, but the corn crop in the Soviet Union, unlike the United States, is relatively unimportant, especially compared with the large rye and wheat crops.

Preliminary estimates indicate a total production of the five grains -- wheat, rye, oats, barley and corn -- of 82.6 million short tons, compared with 80.6 million tons in 1948 and a 1935-39 average of 95.6 million tons. The increase over 1948 of about 2 million tons is due to the larger acreage. The above production figures are not comparable with Soviet estimates of production which are based on "biological" or pre-harvest data and do not take into account considerable harvest losses and are often otherwise overestimated.

The potato crop in some regions also suffered from the excess of rain. All reports, however, point to a good sugar beet crop, with a higher sugar content and prompter delivery to the mills than during the past years, when considerable losses of beets occurred. Favorable growing conditions were also reported for root crops and hay.

The lagging of animal husbandry was acknowledged by a government decree published in April 1949. This decree outlined a 3-year plan for the development of communal livestock on collective and state farms during the period 1949-51. The goals for livestock numbers set up by a previous government program announced in February 1947, had not been reached by the beginning of 1949. It is unofficially estimated that the number of cattle on January 1, 1949, was approximately 10 percent below January 1, 1938, in the present territory of the Soviet Union; the number of sheep and goats was estimated about 9 percent above, and the number of hogs a little more than half of that in 1938. The new plan calls for cattle, sheep and goat numbers at the end of 1950 substantially higher than before the war. Hog numbers are scheduled to be somewhat lower. The development of collectivized (communal) animal husbandry is emphasized. Another decree, published in May 1949, sets very high goals for delivery to the state of meat, milk, wool, eggs and other animal products during the years 1949-51. A significant increase in livestock numbers on collective and state farms as well as an increase of individually owned livestock was officially reported for 1949, but no over-all estimates of livestock numbers were reported.

As in the past years, the Soviet government has, since the harvest began, made a strong drive for large and speedy collections of farm products, especially grain. Pledges to Stalin by farmers in various districts are embodied in letters published in the Soviet press and serve to stimulate deliveries. An increase in deliveries of all grains by about 2.3 million short tons was reported early in November by a high Soviet official. Although not all regions had completed their deliveries by the end of the year and it is therefore possible that some regions might deliver less grain than last year, a substantial increase in state grain collections appears probable.

Quotas for the compulsory delivery of grain and other farm products to the Soviet state are not fixed on the basis of estimates of the size of the crop, but rather on the total land available for crops, or total acreage on each collective farm. In addition to the compulsory collections, the Government also obtains grain and other farm products through payments in kind for work performed on collective farms by the state machine-tractor stations. Such payments are at specified rates for each operation per unit of land, but the rates vary with the officially determined estimates of the unharvested crop in the whole district. The larger volume of work which was performed by the machine-tractor stations in 1949 will certainly augment the supply of grain in the hands of the Government.

Disposal of this additional grain between domestic consumption needs, stockpiling and exports depends completely on the decision of the Soviet government, which has a monopoly of all foreign trade and controls the great bulk of internal trade. While the decision to export grain is primarily a government policy matter which depends only partly on the size of the crop, it is nevertheless true that increased supplies in the hands of the state increase the availability of grain for export. Large Soviet grain exports in 1949-50 will be hampered less by questions of supply than by the relatively limited number of markets in which the Soviet government can advantageously exchange its grain for desired industrial products and raw materials. The outstanding Soviet commitments for grain exports during the current season are to the United Kingdom, which contracted for one million tons of Russian coarse grains but no wheat, to Bulgaria for about 5,900,000 bushels of wheat, and to Iran for 3,700,000 bushels of wheat.

From the standpoint of imports of foodstuffs, Soviet trade with the satellite Manchuria, which is an important producer of soybeans, appears to be significant, especially in view of the shortages of fats in the Soviet Union. An agreement with the Manchurian government, concluded for one year and announced on July 31, 1949, stated that Manchuria is to export soybeans, vegetable oils, corn and rice in exchange for Soviet industrial products.

Soviet sources have so far given no indications as to the size of the winter grain acreage (rye and wheat) seeded in the fall of 1949 for the 1950 harvest. There have been complaints of a dry fall, apparently unfavorable to crops in a number of regions of the European part of the Soviet Union. The snow cover protecting crops was adequate at the end of December in the eastern part of the country, but was lacking or inadequate in a number of western regions. Some improvement in this respect was indicated in January.

MIDDLE EAST

Except for the severe winter in Turkey and Iran which greatly reduced the acreage of winter grains, conditions for food production in most of the Middle Eastern countries during 1949 were generally favorable. As a result of these winter grain shortages this area will be a larger than usual importer of bread grains; but supplies of nuts, olive oil and dried fruits available for export are likely to be as substantial as usual.

Better than average crops were harvested in Egypt, Syria, Lebanon and Iraq. In Turkey, also, the crops of olive oil, oilseeds, nuts and grapes were above average, but the important cereal crops were considerably reduced. Consequently, this country, which is normally an exporter of grains, will require about 330,000 s. tons of imports during 1949-1950. Similar crop conditions were experienced in Iran and about 220,000 s. tons of cereals will be needed for the 1949-1950 consumption year.

In Israel, food production was seriously disrupted as a result of military operations in 1948 and 1949, and this country will be more than usual dependent upon imports during the 1949-50 season. At the same time, the production of citrus, the leading export crop, has been sharply reduced.

Egypt again has about 330,000 s. tons of cleaned rice and 200,000 s. tons of onions available for export, but, as usual, will need to import large quantities of wheat and corn to feed its rapidly growing population. In addition to the normal substantial exports of dates, Iraq has larger than usual quantities of grains and livestock available for export because of the generally favorable weather conditions during 1949. Syria also has more than the average exportable surpluses of wheat and barley.

As a result of the recent war in Palestine, some 600,000 Palestinian Arabs are now living as refugees in neighboring Arab countries. These refugees, mostly agricultural folk, have been unproductive for over 18 months, living mostly in relief camps. It appears that the region as a whole will have sufficient food to take care of this additional load during 1950. The problem, however, is whether funds will be made available for the purchase of food stuffs, either through relief, or through productive work projects as recommended recently by the UN Economic Survey Mission.

Turkey

With the exception of cereals, which are very important in the diet of the Turkish people, food crops during 1949 have been good or better than the previous year. In general Turkey is a surplus grain producing country. The current harvest of grain, however, has been very poor as a result of unfavorable weather conditions during the fall season of 1948.

Early in 1949 Turkey exported about 15,000 s. tons of wheat from the 1948 crop in addition to other cereals, while in 1949, because of a short crop

she had to import so far about 270,000 s. tons of wheat from Canada, U. S. and Syria and 8,300 s. tons of barley from Jordan. On the average, Turkey needs about 5,000,000 s. tons of cereals. Therefore, she anticipates importing more grain unless the carryover of cereals in the hands of peasants, who make the bulk of the population, is sufficient for their needs until the harvest of 1950.

According to official information, planting of winter wheat (for the 1950 harvest) has been heavy, and weather conditions have been very favorable for germination and growth.

The severe and unusually long winter of 1948-49 was very hard on the livestock. Many small animals died from starvation and those which survived, because of shortage of fodder, did not do so well in meat, milk and wool production. Except with cattle, livestock numbers in general are smaller than in the previous year. Unusually large numbers of livestock were marketed.

Fruits, nuts and vegetables have been plentiful and of good quality. The production of edible oil seeds was generally higher, while the production of pulses was lower than in 1948. Nevertheless, exports of the latter were about the same. Exports of fruits and dried fruits were generally increased, with the exception of figs, the exports of which were lower. Exports of seedless raisins were increased two and one-half times over the previous year.

Syria

Following good crops in both 1948 and 1949, Syria has wheat and barley surpluses estimated at 385,000 s. tons for the 1949-50 season. Over 110,000 s. tons of these surpluses are being exported to Lebanon, 110,000 s. tons to Turkey, 55,000 s. tons to Italy and some to Saudi Arabia. An excellent olive oil crop, estimated at 16,000 s. tons of edible oil, was also harvested and about 8,800 s. tons will be offered for export.

The principal food imports will consist, as usual, of some 28,000 s. tons of sugar and 11,000 s. tons of rice.

Lebanon

Lebanon, normally is a deficit producer of the staple food items, but import requirements for the 1949-50 season of some 110,000 s. tons of wheat and 55,000 s. tons of other grains will be provided mainly by Syria and livestock for slaughter, mainly sheep, by Turkey and Iraq.

The main food surpluses in 1950 are expected to consist of some 22,000 s. tons of deciduous fruit, 33,000 s. tons of citrus, 88,000 s. tons of vegetables, 3,300 s. tons of bananas and 3,300 s. tons of olive oil.

Israel

Israel's population has been increasing from month to month at a very rapid rate, due to intensive immigration, reaching at the end of 1949 a total of over 1 million. Before partition, Palestine was a deficit producer of foodstuffs and had to depend upon imports for the major portion of the staple items. This rapid increase in population has made it even more deficient in food supplies.

Damage and dislocation caused by the war between Israel and the Arab states have disrupted agricultural production. The citrus crop, the main export item of the country, was hard hit, as about 50 percent of the citrus areas was formerly in the hands of Arab owners, who have left Israel. A similar setback was suffered by the olive crop. During the 1948-49 season only 3.8 million cases of citrus were exported, compared with normal exports of 15 million cases. About 5 million cases are likely to be exported from the 1949-50 crop.

Additional damage was done by unfavorable weather prevailing during the winter and early spring of 1949. Consequently, with the exception of vegetables, which are in ample production, Israel must depend heavily upon imports of bread grains, rice, sugar, livestock products and many other food items.

Egypt

As a result of favorable weather conditions, adequate water supplies for irrigation, and adequate supplies of imported nitrogenous fertilizer (upon which Egyptian agriculture depends heavily) excellent cereal and pulse crops were harvested last summer and fall. In order to meet its normal needs, however, Egypt will have to import about 551,000 s. tons of bread grains, mostly wheat and corn. Under an agreement already signed, 110,000 s. tons of corn will be supplied by Yugoslavia in exchange for cotton. A similar exchange was in effect last year with Russia, and renewal is now being discussed. The remainder of the requirements for wheat probably will come from the U. S., Canada, and Australia, under the terms of the International Wheat Agreement. Purchases to date under that agreement total about 66,100 s. tons all from Australia.

Sugar production is expected to be less than in the previous year, due to smaller acreage and lower yields of sugarcane. Supplies, however, will be sufficient to meet consumption requirements.

Cottonseed oil is another very important item in Egyptian diet. Adequate supplies of cottonseed for the local crop, plus some imports from the Sudan, will meet the country's needs of this item.

Furthermore, Egypt will have to import its usual requirements of tea

and coffee, as these two crops are not raised locally.

In addition to its substantial exports of cotton, Egypt will have an exportable surplus of some 331,000 s. tons of cleaned rice and 198,000 s. tons of onions. The underlying policy in the disposal of the rice surplus is to barter it for wheat and corn, or to sell it for hard currency. About 11,000 s. tons have already been sold to U. S. military authorities in the Far East.

Iraq

Favorable weather and ample supplies of irrigation water resulted in bumper crops in Iraq during the summer and fall of 1949. Consequently, Iraq is in a position to meet all of its grain requirements for 1950, and also offer for export surpluses of about 176,400 s. tons of wheat, 551,000 s. tons of barley and 44,000 s. tons of rice.

In addition, the usual substantial surplus of dates will be offered for export. In recent years date exports have amounted to about 220,500 s. tons annually.

Also livestock is reported to have entered the winter season in good condition. Normally, about 120,000 head (mostly sheep) are exported annually to neighboring countries.

Iran

In Iran unfavorable weather conditions resulted in below average production of several crops during 1949. The wheat crop amounted to only 1,798,000 s. tons as compared to 2,094,000 s. tons the previous year. The shortage of wheat, estimated at 220,000 s. tons, resulted in a serious food situation in the northern provinces until arrangements were made for wheat imports from Russia and Iraq.

Unfavorable weather also reduced the sugar crop to 33,900 s. tons as compared to 47,400 s. tons in 1948, and in 1950 imports of sugar are expected to total considerably higher than in the past year. In addition, it is estimated that about 551 s. tons of vegetable oil and 8,800 s. tons of tea will be imported. As a rule Iran produces sufficient quantities of both fats and vegetable oils for her needs.

Stocks of foodstuffs at the beginning of the consumption year are estimated at 116,000 s. tons, which are less than one-third of the estimated stocks of 373,000 s. tons a year earlier. Consumption during the coming year is forecast at 6,645,000 s. tons, as compared with the estimated 6,077,000 s. tons for last year, while the disappearance in non-food channels (seed spoilage, waste, etc.) is forecast at 805,000 s. tons. The forecast of total import requirements is placed at 357,000 s. tons in contrast with the forecast for the past year of only 106,500 s. tons.

It is anticipated that food exports during the year will total about two-thirds the tonnage of the total food imports or around 218,000 s. tons. Rice is the only grain to be exported in any appreciable quantity, the amount being forecast at 52,000 s. tons. Dried fruits to be exported are forecast at 117,000 s. tons, with pulse crops at 16,500 s. tons, nuts 14,700 s. tons, vegetable oils and fats 7,300 s. tons and fish 6,600 s. tons.

The planting season of 1949-50 has been most favorable, but there has been shortage of good quality of seed. Great efforts are being made on the part of the government to increase the acreage of bread cereals.

THE FAR EAST

Summary

Economic dislocation, political uncertainty and civil war continued as the dominant factors in the food and agricultural situation in the Far East during 1949. Inflation and political and military conflicts in the area combined to disrupt the production and distribution of agricultural products. Material declines in production of food products during 1949 in China, Burma, Indonesia over-shadowed the gradual improvement that occurred in most of the other countries of the region.

Rice is the most important crop and the principal food item of the Far East and production in this area during 1949-50 was about 3 percent below a year earlier. On the other hand, production of several other foods was larger and with the greater food availabilities from outside the area there are prospects of improved food consumption everywhere except in China Proper. Food supplies on a per capita basis, however, continue considerably below prewar and the region as a whole is still a large net importer of food products.

The most serious decline in food production occurred in China Proper where unfavorable crop weather and civil disturbances over very large areas contributed to a decrease of about 10 percent in total indigenous food production. Of particular significance was an 8 percent decline from 1948 levels in the production of rice and an 11 percent decline in wheat production. This decline in production, coupled with an uncertain outlook for imports, indicates that there will be some suffering from food shortages in China Proper this year. Taiwan (Formosa) and Manchuria each have a surplus of grain for export.

Both Japan and South Korea had good crops in 1949. Japan harvested one of the largest rice crops in her history and Korea has an exportable surplus of rice for the first time since the war. Production in Ceylon, Malaya, and the Philippines is slightly above last year, but population increases have largely cancelled out the possibility of net per capita gains from indigenous production. Rice import requirements in 1950 should be about the same as in 1949. A decline in the production of rice, corn and potatoes in Indonesia places that country in a less favorable position in regard to food than it was a year ago.

India and Pakistan are in a more favorable position in respect to food supplies at the beginning of 1950 than they were a year earlier. Pakistan had a very favorable crop year and wound up the harvest season with a total of over 400,000 tons of wheat available for export. The "Grow More Food" campaign in India, plus reasonably favorable crop conditions, resulted in a slightly increased supply of indigenous food-stuffs. India, however, is still only 90 percent self-sufficient in food and will again need to import about 4 million tons of food grains in 1950.

Indications are that the surplus rice area comprising Burma, Thailand and French Indo-China, will have less rice available for export than in 1948. Civil War in Burma and French Indo-China is the principal limiting factor. Total production of rice in the three countries decreased by 9 percent below the 1948 level. Export availabilities from these countries in 1950 are expected to approximate only 2.3 million short tons; this amount is less than the total 1950 needs of the rice deficit countries of the Far East, and in sharp contrast to prewar conditions when the Far East had an exportable rice surplus of 6.3 million short tons annually. This shift from a surplus to a deficit trade position in rice is one of the most significant postwar developments in the Far East. Any significant progress towards re-establishing prewar production levels in agricultural commodities will undoubtedly be delayed until the return of political stability in Burma and French Indo-China.

Total 1949 production of vegetable oil products in the Far East showed a slight increase over 1948. Vegetable oil production in the exporting countries of Indonesia and the Philippines is only slightly higher than in 1948. Before the war, the Far East was the principal source of fats and oils for the international trade, but net exports in 1949 were only one-half of prewar or approximately one million tons. The outlook for 1950 is for a slight increase in exports of fats and oils.

Sugar production in the Far East declined slightly in 1949, largely as the result of decreases in China and Formosa and was 16 percent below prewar.

China

The 1949 China Proper estimate of food production of 110 million metric tons is about 10 percent smaller than both 1948 production and the 1931-37 average.

Although acreage totals for 1948 and 1949 show little difference, estimates of 1949 food production show drastic declines when compared with 1948 or other good crop years. The decline is largely attributable to unfavorable weather conditions in all the important food producing areas in the country. Also, the disorganization and destruction wrought by China's civil war has been a factor in lowered production of food.

In North China, a severe winter drought continued on into the spring of 1949, affecting almost all the area, delaying spring planting of most crops, and resulting in poor development of the winter wheat crop. Typhoons in July, plus excessive summer and autumn rainfall caused one of the worst floods in decades. Central Communist government statistical sources estimate that roughly 23 percent of the total arable

land in North China was affected by the flood. The continuous rainfall stimulated weed growth and hindered the ripening and harvest of crops. In addition, insect damage was reported heavy and widespread because of weather conditions.

Central and East China experienced a very mild winter and above normal rainfall in March, April and May, with good early development, but a devastating summer flood which inundated large portions of the fertile Central and lower Yangtze Valley caused widespread damage and ruined crops in the area. Water levels at various points on the Yangtze River during 1949 were very close to record levels established during the disastrous flood of 1931. The typhoon in July, plus above normal rainfall in October and early November, also contributed to destruction of crops in the Yangtze delta.

In South China the growth of summer crops was considerably retarded by winter drought, followed by excessive rain, cool weather, lack of sunshine and floods. Except in the Pearl River delta, planting of the first rice crop was delayed by lack of rain. This delayed planting of the second crop, thereby reducing yields. Floods reduced yields on the first crop in Kwangsi and the second crop was planted under unfavorable weather conditions.

Only in Southwest China were rainfall and weather conditions reported as normal, with increased yields in Yunnan and an average crop in Kweichow.

During 1949 farmers were forced to sell all their crops shortly after harvest or be guilty of hoarding and liable to heavy requisition and "compulsory borrowing". The Central (Communist) Government therefore gained control of a large portion of the nation's foodstuffs immediately after the harvest. As a result, it is generally believed that food shortages very likely will be more visible in the vast rural areas than in the densely populated major industrial cities where Central Government policy may create an artificial abundance in return for political support from workers, teachers, students and the like. The Chinese Communist-directed collection of food from the rural areas and the subsequent well-disciplined distribution in urban centers is evidence that the Central Government is willing to denude the countryside of food in order to gain political advantage by keeping the cities reasonably well supplied. In normal years, China has required food imports of approximately 1.5 million metric tons. This year, because of the Nationalist blockade of east coast ports and because of the weak foreign exchange position of the Central Government, it is doubtful if even this amount of food, much less the amount needed to meet the deficit, will be imported. There will also be no foreign aid such as UNRRA, CRM or ECA available to the new regime for meeting the food deficit. The Central Government in breaking down trade barriers between rural and urban areas and between provinces is hoping to alleviate shortages which other Chinese Governments have been able to meet only through gifts of foreign aid.

Even if the factors of distribution, consumption, and Government control were operating efficiently, there will be some suffering from shortage of food during the coming year. However, the politico-economic and, to some extent, the military factors affecting supply and demand are so complex in China at the present time that a satisfactory forecast of either the size or effects of the food deficit is extremely difficult.

The food position in Taiwan (Formosa) is good as a result of favorable weather last summer. This year's rice crop was estimated at 1,300 thousand short tons milled rice, almost 10 percent above 1948, but not equal to the record 1936 crop of about 1.37 million tons. Taiwan generally has an export balance of foodstuffs; however, widespread hoarding is reported and the course of political and military events in 1950 may adversely affect the present apparently good supply of food.

The 1949 food crop in Manchuria is estimated at 12.2 million metric tons, 3 percent above the 1948 figure, but 18 percent below the 1934-36 average. As in the rest of China, poor crop weather was the main factor in the relatively low production. Spring droughts and abnormal summer rainfall in the north and a typhoon and floods in the south caused extensive damage. Manchuria in 1935-37 exported an average of 2.4 million metric tons of foodstuffs, but will probably export only one-half of this amount in 1950. Although some Manchurian grain from the 1949 crop has been received in Peiping, it is doubtful if North China or other food deficit areas will receive much food grain from Manchuria in 1950. The bulk of Manchuria's surplus soybeans, rice and wheat appear to be headed for Russia.

The decline in food production outlined above indicates a precarious overall China food situation during the spring and early summer of 1950. Official statements within recent weeks have indicated an awareness of the situation on the part of the Central Government. However, the prospects for China to meet a huge food deficit under present circumstances are gloomy despite the fact that the Communist authorities are exerting every effort to increase food production, as well as to economize on consumption through numerous austerity projects and anti-famine campaigns. Encouragement is also being given to reliance on subsidiary foodstuffs such as vegetables, wild fruits and even weeds.

Japan

The food situation in Japan improved significantly in 1949. Staple food production totalled roughly 15 million metric tons in brown rice equivalents - slightly better than the 1948 harvest. Collection of 1948 crop staples for distribution in the year ending in June 1949, exceeded 7 million tons in brown rice equivalents, substantially more than in other post-war years, and prospects for another successful crop collection program are good. Although there was no increase in the food ration

levels in 1949, rations of all foods except sugar were met regularly throughout the year for the first time since the war. Supplies of non-rationed foods are becoming increasingly plentiful. Average consumption levels have been increased to about 2,050 calories per capita per day, 92 percent of prewar, and projected consumption levels for 1950 are 50 to 75 calories higher. Food imports are averaging slightly less than 300,000 metric tons per month. These are chiefly from the United States, but the proportion of supplies from non-dollar areas is increasing rapidly.

Preliminary production estimates of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry indicate a total harvest in 1949 of 21,065,000 metric tons of staple food crops (including minor cereals and pulses). This production is 2 percent less than the 1948 harvest of 21,501,000 metric tons. Production in brown rice equivalents, however, is thought to have been approximately the same as in 1948 - 15,033,000 metric tons compared with the 1948 output of 14,954,000 metric tons. Increased production of rice, wheat, barley, naked barley and soybeans in 1949 was offset by a substantial decrease in output of sweet potatoes and some of the minor crops.

The greatest increase over the prewar average has been in the production of both sweet and white potatoes. It is estimated that in 1949 the prewar average was exceeded by about 90 percent in the case of sweet potatoes and 45 percent for white potatoes. The 1949 rice production exceeded the prewar average by approximately 5 percent. Wheat, barley and naked barley production, although somewhat better than in 1948, was still about 6 percent below prewar because of the decrease in wheat production. Minor cereals and pulses totalled only 60-65 percent of the 1931-40 average. The 1949 preliminary production estimate for staple crops (cereals, potatoes and pulses) surpasses the 1931-40 average by 6 percent on a brown rice equivalent.

In general, it may be stated that production of food in Japan is near the maximum level and although slight increases can be expected in the coming years, the rapidly increasing population will more than offset increased indigenous supplies. It appears inevitable that the Japanese deficit in cereals, sugar and soybeans will increase in the years to come.

While staple food production in 1948 and 1949 was 6 percent greater than the average for the 1931-40 period, Japan's population has increased by about 20 percent since 1936. Therefore, although cereal imports have increased from an annual prewar average of 1.75 million metric tons to about 2.8 million in 1949, the per capita supply of staple foods is still appreciably less than prewar and is reflected in lower per capita consumption levels, sharp curtailment of industrial uses of cereals, restricted use of cereals for feed, and high cereal extraction rates. Consumption of such indigenous non-staple foods as fish,

vegetables and fruit, are close to prewar levels, but per capita availability of miso (soy paste), shoyu (soy sauce) and sugar, supplies of which depend on imports, is considerably below prewar. Sugar consumption is running only 20 percent of prewar on a per capita basis, and miso and shoyu are about 75 percent and 85 percent of prewar, respectively.

The most significant development in the current Japanese food import program, apart from the increase in imports, is the gradual shifting of sources from the United States to other areas. In the July-December 1949 period, a total of 325,000 metric tons of food was imported by Japan from areas outside the United States. It is expected that at least double this quantity will be imported from these areas during the first six months of 1950 and that as much as a million tons may be imported in the last half of the year. These imports, procured with the proceeds of Japanese exports, will be principally rice, wheat, coarse grains, sugar and soybeans.

Republic of Korea

South Korea, a food deficit area since the end of the war as a result of a sharp decline in production and the simultaneous rapid increase in the population, due to the influx of refugees and repatriates, has become self-sufficient in cereals as a result of one of the largest rice crops in history in 1948, plus an excellent crop of summer grains and another good crop of rice in 1949. The final estimate of 1949 rice production is 2.4 million short tons milled rice, as against 2.3 million tons in 1948 and the 1940-44 average of 2.1 million tons. Production of summer grains in 1949 was the highest in years and about 25 percent above 1948. Seafood production, on the other hand, is lower. Marine landings have declined steadily since the end of the war, due to lack of boats, nets, and other fishing supplies.

Imports of all cereals except wheat and wheat flour ceased in December 1948; wheat and flour imports terminated in June 1949. No net cereals imports are planned during 1950 by the ECA, but Korean Government authorities, with the concurrence of ECA officials, are planning the export of a minimum of 100,000 metric tons of rice, to be compensated for by the importation of an equal calorie value in cheaper barley or millet. Thus a net dollar profit will be realized from exports without reducing food supplies for domestic Korean consumption.

Rice is the prime factor in the food situation in South Korea, supplying over 60 percent of the total calories available for human consumption. Other grains provide about 17 percent of the total, leaving a balance of 23 percent to be filled by such foods as potatoes, vegetables, fruits, fish and meat.

Since the war, Government-sponsored grain collection programs have made possible the equitable distribution of available food supplies at reasonable prices. The 1948-49 Government rice collection program,

however, was only partially successful. Lack of enforcement, due in part to political opposition, caused abandonment of the program in March 1949, when it was only 52 percent completed.

Concurrent with the discontinuance of the collection program and the consequent decline in Government held stocks of grains, it became necessary to re-examine the number of persons on ration rolls. As a result of this screening, the number of people eligible to receive rationed grain was reduced from a total of over 8 million persons in January 1949 to about 4.5 million at the end of October. It is possible that further reductions in rationed population may occur during 1950.

Food-grain collection was reinstituted for the 1949-50 crop year. In 1949, 103,000 metric tons of summer grains were collected; this was 106.3 percent of the established goal. In addition, on December 25, the Minister of Agriculture, Republic of Korea, estimated that over 90 percent of the 1949 rice goal of 510,000 metric tons of polished rice had been purchased by the Government. The successful implementation of these two grain collection programs may, in large part, be attributed to the liberal terms of purchase accorded Korean farmers by the Government. Under the terms of the program the farmers received approximately the equivalent of the open market price for rice sold to the Government. Part of the purchase price is paid to them in cash, part in certificates redeemable in fertilizer, and part in cotton cloth. Good crops, plus the successful grain purchase programs, have resulted in an improved food situation in South Korea and has strengthened materially the economic position of the Republic in its second year of existence.

Burma, Thailand (Siam) and French Indo-China

This area was the world's great rice surplus region before the war, accounting for 63 percent of the world's rice exports and 68 percent of those of Asia. Prewar exports from this area averaged 6.3 million short tons annually. Total exports in 1949 amounted to only 38 percent of prewar level, compared to 39 percent in 1948 and a low of 17 percent in 1946. No increases in exports are foreseen for 1950. Total exports from Burma, Thailand and French Indo-China during 1950 will probably be around 2.3 million short tons, only a third of the prewar level.

Rice acreage throughout the area contracted during the war. Since 1945, Thailand alone has continued to expand rice acreage. The civil war in the other two countries has made progress in this respect impossible. The area planted to rice in all three countries for the 1949-50 crop is about 7 million acres less than prewar, a decline of around 20 percent.

Burma:

Continued political unrest resulting in declining acreage will restrict Burma's rice exports in 1950 to around 950 thousand short tons, 29 percent

of the prewar level and about 370 thousand short tons less than in 1948. The planted area of the current crop is estimated at 7.7 million acres, as compared to 9.9 million in the preceding year and 12.7 million prewar. Production from the 1949-50 crop is expected to be approximately 3.2 million short tons in terms of milled, as compared to the 4.2 million obtained from the previous crop. The partial collection of the surplus crop and its transportation to shipping points has been difficult and has been accomplished only by the use of armed guards. In this manner Burma met practically all of her limited export commitments in 1949, having shipped 1,300 thousand short tons, as against an annual average of 3,268 thousand short tons in 1936-40. As in the case of French Indo-China, exports during 1950 will depend primarily on the degree of political stabilization. A decline in exports is expected, however.

Thailand (Siam):

Thailand's rice area amounted to 7.5 million acres for both the 1948-49 and 1949-50 crop years, an increase of about 0.5 million over the prewar average. Production has increased from a prewar average of 3.4 million short tons in terms of milled rice, to 3.9 million in 1948-49, which figure is expected to be repeated in 1949-50. No internal difficulties obstruct exports, which will probably approximate 1.3 million short tons in 1950. This will comprise a slight gain over the 1.1 million tons exported in 1949, but will still be only 90 percent of prewar. The decline in exports is due primarily to the requirements of increased population.

French Indo-China:

Political unrest continues to limit rice exports to a level far below the country's potential. During 1949, rice exports amounted to around 65 thousand short tons of milled rice; about 4 percent of the prewar annual average and less than a third of 1948 exports. Favorable growing conditions during the 1948-49 crop year raised production to 4.5 million short tons in terms of milled rice, an increase over the preceding year, but still only 90 percent of the average annual production of prewar years. Prospects for the current crop year are good in the southern areas, but drought in the north, and contractions in the total area planted will cause a decline in over-all production which is expected to be about 4.3 million short tons of milled rice.

Production in French Indo-China has no bearing on exports since armed revolt severely impedes rice collection. Furthermore, the Government has imposed a blockade on the major export areas in order to deny rice revenues to the insurgents, although this means a drop in exports. It has been reported that thousands of tons of surplus rice have accumulated in the rebel zones. The difficulty of marketing rice surpluses will doubtlessly cause further contraction of the planted area. A rise in exports during 1950 will depend entirely on improvements in the political situation.

India

India's food supply during 1949-50 is likely to be slightly better than during the previous season. The summer crops of jowar, bajra and corn were somewhat better than in 1948 and will provide over 11 million short tons or about one-fourth of the total grain production. The rice crop, which provides less than one-half of the total grain supply, is better than last year and probably will be one of the highest crops on record. The wheat and grain crop will be harvested next March and April. It was planted under favorable conditions and if there is favorable weather in January, should exceed last year's production. During 1948-49, production of 8 principal foodgrains was 41.3 million tons compared with 44.4 million the year before. The new season, 1949-50, has started favorably and with the concerted drive of the "Grow More Food" program, should result in a production exceeding 1947-48 production, assuming good weather conditions prevail. The 1949 sugar crop was about 9 percent less than the 1948 crop.

From January 1 to October 20, 1949, India imported 3.4 million long tons of grains and it is expected that the total imports for 1949 will reach at least 3.7 million long tons. Of the 3.4 million tons, already imported, 1.9 million were wheat and wheat products. Rice was the second most important, totaling 745 thousand tons; next were grain sorghums (389 thousand); and corn (134 thousand). Rye, barley, and spelt composed the remainder. Nearly 25 percent of the total imports, or 796 thousand tons, came from the United States; these consisted mostly of wheat, wheat products, and grain sorghums. Australia provided the second largest amount of imports with Argentina third and Russia fourth. Burma supplied nearly 375 thousand tons of rice.

In spite of increased domestic production of food crops during 1949, India will continue to import substantial quantities of food products. India will probably continue to substitute other cereals for rice consumption by a part of her population who are normally rice eaters. With the devaluation of the rupee, India will undoubtedly attempt to buy as much of her food requirements as possible from the sterling area and from countries which have devaluated their currency.

Early in 1949 the Government of India announced that the country would become self-sufficient in foodgrains in 1951. The "Grow More Food" program was given top priority and it was hoped that food production would be increased by about 2 million tons above 1947-48.

Along with intensifying the "Grow More Food" program, rationing was extended to include more people and to supply a minimum amount of 12 ounces per day for each adult equivalent. To supply the rationed families, a total of about 8 million tons of grains will be required. Through local procurement programs, about 4 million tons were obtained from domestic production. The rest of the amount was made up from imported grains. It is expected that during the coming year about the same quantity of grains will be required for the rationed areas.

It remains to be seen how effective local procurement programs will be in obtaining more than 4 million tons this year. It is entirely possible that India's imports will be curtailed by one million tons.

There is no reason to believe that production of dairy products, meat, fish, fruits and vegetables will be any lower than for the year before.

Pakistan

Foodgrain supplies in Pakistan at the end of 1949 were much improved over those of a year before. Following favorable weather conditions during the growing season and stable tenure conditions in the rural areas, wheat production was up 11 percent and rice 12 percent. The production of other foodgrains, sugar, and oilseeds was also higher. The new cultivators had become established and accustomed to farming conditions in Pakistan and felt enough security of tenure to harvest larger crops and to sell a greater proportion to Government purchasing agents.

The short crops of 1948 necessitated imports during 1948-49 of 160 thousand long tons of wheat. By the end of October 63 thousand long tons of rice were imported. Additional quantities might have been smuggled from other countries. Nearly 80 percent of the wheat imports were from Russia and most of the rice was from Burma. In spite of a slightly larger 1949 rice crop than that of the year before, it will be necessary to import into East Pakistan between 250 and 300 thousand tons of rice or its equivalent in other cereals during 1949-50. On the other hand, West Pakistan will probably have a surplus of 400 thousand tons of wheat to sell on the world market. Most of the surplus grain has been bought by the Government for both distribution to the deficit areas and for sale abroad. The new Government has made rapid strides in establishing confidence among the cultivators as well as the consumers. Most of the black market has been brought under control, especially in West Pakistan. Some grain will undoubtedly be smuggled into India for sale in the black market there.

The rice crop harvested in 1950 might be smaller than the year before because floods last summer retarded planting and damaged some of the growing crop. Wheat crop prospects are favorable for another large crop. As the cultivators gain more experience in irrigated farming, further improvements in production are probable.

Ceylon

During 1949, Ceylon continued to import a large part of the food required. Food imports represented 52 percent of the value of all imports, about the same proportion as the year before. Food import expenditures constitute one-fourth of the national income; consequently, the Government of Ceylon has begun a drive to increase indigenous food production by the use of improved production methods and increased irrigation.

Rice makes up two-thirds of Ceylon's imports of foodgrains and wheat flour constitutes about one-fourth. Other important imports are pulses and gram. Most of the rice is imported from Burma, flour from Australia and pulses and gram from India. All of these countries have devaluated their currency and therefore Ceylon is not at a price disadvantage because of devaluation.

Malaya

The rice crop in the 1949-50 season is expected to be better than that of 1948-49. Government officials expect that imports of 433 thousand tons of rice will be sufficient to meet 1949-50 requirements of the Federation's population, due to increased consumption of breadgrains and root crops. Imports during the previous year amounted to 566 thousand long tons. With such imports for the current year and with present favorable crop prospects, it may be possible to increase the rice ration above the present 9 ounces a day.

Since no wheat is produced in the Federation, it is anticipated that wheat flour imports of 100 thousand tons will be required during the 1949-50 season.

Indonesia

Fragmentary reports from Indonesia indicate the 1949 production of rice was below that of 1948. It was estimated that 285 thousand metric tons of rice would have to be imported into the islands during 1949; actual imports were 215 thousand metric tons up to the end of October. Imports during 1950 are expected to reach 350 thousand metric tons. Rice is the staple of the diet of a large part of the population on Java and Madura, South Borneo, South Celebes, Lombok, and Bali. The Government purchase program has been only partially successful. Cultivators have eaten larger quantities of rice and have held more in reserve because of the shortage of cloth and other consumer goods.

Other crops are also substituted for rice in the diet of many of the islands. Cassava, corn, sweet potatoes, peanuts, soybeans, and seafood are important items where rice is not readily available. Data are not available on the production of these items but Government officials estimate the Java corn supply was 20 percent below prewar and that a 25 percent decrease occurred in cassava and sweet potatoes. Data are not available for the other islands. Sugar production of 240 thousand tons was almost sufficient to meet domestic consumption of 250 thousand tons.

Philippines

Food conditions were good during 1949 and the prospects for 1950 are promising. Despite political unrest and fighting in the major rice producing area on Luzon, Philippine rice production attained record

proportions in 1949. The acreage of the 1948-49 crop is estimated to have been around 5.3 million acres, an increase of 10 percent over prewar. Yields were up slightly and total production amounted to around 1,520 thousand short tons in terms of milled - 20 percent above the prewar level. The acreage of the 1949-50 rice crop is estimated at 5.4 million acres. Total production is expected to reach 1,970 thousand short tons, a gain over the preceding year. The blackmarketing, speculation and rice shortages that prevailed in late 1948 were largely overcome in 1949 by the timely importation of 160,000 short tons of rice. Rice prices fell to the lowest level since the end of the war. In 1950, as in 1949, only a relatively small volume of imports will be needed to insure adequate supplies of food. Supplies of other foods were generally adequate; production of corn and sweet potatoes was higher than prewar, while abundant quantities of coconut oil and sugar were available for domestic consumption.

Recent increases made in Philippine rice production have been more than offset by increases in population. Therefore, despite larger imports, per capita consumption of rice has not been restored to the prewar level. Imports increased from an average of 65 thousand short tons milled before the war to 162 short tons in 1949. Prewar domestic rice consumption was about 104 percent of production, whereas it was close to 108 percent in 1949. The country could become self-sufficient in staple foods and possibly become a rice exporter if yields could be increased.

Climatic and soil conditions favor such progress, but primitive production methods obstruct it, and Philippine rice yields are still among the lowest in the world.

BRITISH DOMINIONS

Exporting Dominions of the British Empire (Canada, Australia, New Zealand)

The leveling off of the abnormal postwar demand for food in the deficit areas of the world was reflected in the reappearance during 1948-49 of problems of marketing and surpluses which had not been important since before the war. This tendency was particularly evident in the three principal exporting Dominions of the British Empire where the basic pattern of agriculture is production of food for export, chiefly to the United Kingdom, in return for industrial goods. Because Australia and New Zealand are firmly within the so-called "sterling bloc," these tendencies were not as obvious there as they were in Canada where the "dollar problem" had, by the end of 1949, made very difficult the course of negotiations for export contracts to the United Kingdom. The British shortage of dollars had seriously upset the egg and poultry market and it was only through sharp price reductions and by postponing a part of the wheat deliveries that it was possible to negotiate contracts for bacon and cheese. Currently levels of food production in all three Dominions assure that they will be able to meet all export commitments, especially with the United Kingdom. With further improvement of the world food situation, it may be expected that there may again be problems of surpluses, but governments generally are equipped to take action to stabilize the prices paid to farmers. The International Wheat Agreement in particular is designed both to stabilize prices and to obtain guaranteed markets for specified quantities of wheat and flour.

Canada

The 1949 wheat crop of 372 million bushels was smaller than the 1948 crop by over 20 million bushels. Larger August 1 carryover made available an estimated 225-250 million bushels for export during 1949-50, compared to actual exports of 232 during 1948-49. Exports are currently running well ahead of last year; 90 million bushels of wheat and flour (wheat equivalent) had already been exported up to November 30, compared to 67 million during the same period last year. From the 225 to 250 million bushels estimated available for export, 140 million was slated for delivery to the United Kingdom during 1949-50 under long-term contract, leaving about 100 million available for other markets, well over the amount needed to fulfill the Canadian quota under the Wheat Agreement. According to reports, shipment of 12-1/2 million bushels under the United Kingdom contract will be postponed until 1950-51 in order to allow purchases of Canadian bacon in 1950. Supplies of feed grains for export in 1950 will be well below those a year ago, due to declines in production of all feedgrains. Problems of marketing oats and barley were reflected this year when the Canadian Wheat Board began marketing these two

most important feedgrains through a pool system. Rain and unusually mild winter weather have caused some floods in Ontario, the only important area for winter wheat, and given rise to worry over the possibility of unseasonal growth of the current crop and subsequent damage for freezing.

Total meat production from inspected slaughter during 1948-49 (basis August 1 year) declined by 167 million pounds, most of which represented a loss in pork production. The opening of the U. S. market to Canadian beef at the beginning of 1948-49 year resulted in much larger total exports than in the year 1947-48. High prices caused a decline in domestic consumption, but also encouraged heavy slaughters of cattle to such an extent that cattle numbers were reduced and beef production for 1949-50 will probably be slightly lower than that of 1948-49. Exports of dressed beef for 1949-50 are estimated at about 90 million pounds, compared to 118 million during 1948-49. Pork production fell sharply during 1948-49; this drop was paralleled by a sharp drop in exports. However, the steady decline in hog numbers during recent years was finally reversed in the fall of 1949 so that pork production during 1949-50 is expected to increase over last year. Exports of pork products for 1949-50 are estimated at 100 million pounds, compared to only 83 during 1948-49. Shipments of bacon to the United Kingdom in 1949 amounted to about 100 million pounds. After long and complicated negotiations, a contract was recently signed for the export of 60 million pounds, at 29 cents a pound, f.o.b., 7 cents below the 1949 price of 3-1/2 cents below the announced Government support price. The seriousness of the United Kingdom dollar shortage is shown by the fact that agreement on the bacon contract was reached only by utilizing 25 to 30 million dollars originally scheduled for purchase of wheat under the current contract. Purchase of the corresponding amount of wheat will be postponed until next year. Without this decrease in wheat purchases, no bacon contract would have been possible. Producers are not altogether satisfied with the terms of the new contract. In response to their demands, the Dominion Government has announced that unrestricted foreign trade in hogs and pork products will be allowed after July 1, 1950. It has also been announced that even before this date consideration will be given to applications to export bacon to markets other than Great Britain.

Milk production continued steady during the year, but lower production of butter and concentrated milk resulted from fluid milk being used for cheese. The legalization of margarine has lowered demand for butter so that imports have ceased and domestic consumption has dropped to the lowest point in several years. Production of butter for the year ending July 31, 1950 is foreseen at about 275 million pounds, compared to about 286 million during 1948-49. During the past year the Government began buying butter at the support price of 58 cents; total carryover for

August 1, 1950 is estimated at 80 million pounds, compared to 56 million on the same date in 1949. The lack of dollars on the part of buyers in the sterling area has caused a further drop in exports of concentrated milk products and will probably result in a further contraction of production during the coming year. A contract has recently been signed with the United Kingdom, which will absorb practically all Canadian cheese produced during 1950. These cheese exports will be made at a price below the 30 cents per pound at which 50 million pounds were shipped last year.

The same problem of financing exports to the United Kingdom reduced egg production to 350 million dozen during 1948-49 from 391 the previous year. The outlook for exports during 1949-50 is presently very poor. Failure to negotiate a contract for sale of eggs to the United Kingdom during 1950 has already caused a sharp fall in Canadian egg prices and will certainly be reflected in poultry prices. Since last year's contract provided for the export of 46 million dozen eggs at a price of 45-46 cents per dozen to producers, widespread demands are now being made for government price support at that level.

Australia

Food controls are still in effect in Australia on butter, rice and cream; in addition, price controls are maintained for most basic foods. Rationing of butter and control of rice consumption have been continued to assure that supplies for these commodities will be available for export. The new Australian Government has indicated that it will stand by the principle of guaranteed prices for basic primary products, and will be guided by "independent cost-finding tribunals."

The 1949-50 wheat harvest is estimated at 203 million bushels. This is slightly more than last year's 191 million bushels and more than 25 percent above the prewar average. After exports during 1949 of 123 million bushels, year end stocks on November 30 are estimated at 17 million bushels, slightly lower than 1948. It is estimated that about the same amount will be available for export from the current crop, which is considerably more than the Australian export quota of 80 million bushels guaranteed under the International Wheat Agreement, thus leaving significant supplies for so-called "free sale" outside the agreement.

Unfavorable weather during 1948-49 reduced the size of the dried currant and raisin pack, thus checking the steady increase of recent years which has doubled production since prewar. It is still too early to estimate the 1949-50 pack, but in general it can be stated that production may increase during the next few years to a point where Australia together with the Union of South Africa could largely supply the needs of the United Kingdom, Canada, and New Zealand.

Heavy spring rain in September and October improved pasture conditions in all parts of Australia and forage prospects are favorable for the coming season.

During 1949, both livestock numbers and slaughterings increased for the third year in succession; particularly significant was the recovery in sheep numbers from the losses suffered in the drought years immediately after the war. Meat production during the year ending June 30, 1949 was 2,144 million pounds, with beef and veal production the highest since 1937-38, and production of mutton, lamb, and pork approaching prewar, although still well below wartime peaks.

Increased domestic consumption of beef and veal not only absorbed the increase in production and decreased exports below 1947-48, but beef stocks on June 30, 1949 were reduced to 12 percent below those of a year earlier. Exports of mutton and lamb were slightly below 1947-48, with larger stocks absorbing most of the difference. Further increases in production of all meats is expected in 1949-50, which should provide increased exportable surpluses, assuming export prices for meat are satisfactory to producers.

Whole milk production in Australia during the year ending June 30, 1949 of 1,206 million gallons, was the highest since the beginning of the war and well above the 1947-48 figure. As a result, production of butter, cheese, and powdered milk all increased over last year. Butter production of 361 million pounds was still well below prewar, both because domestic consumption of fluid milk had expanded significantly and larger quantities of milk were being diverted to the manufacture of cheese and preserved milk. Production of all these commodities during the first months of 1949-50 was running well ahead of the previous year; this, coupled with the good forage situation, indicated increased production for the whole year. Exports of dairy products during 1949 were also well ahead of those during the previous year so that no important surpluses were accumulating.

New Zealand

Favorable weather during 1948-49 provided sufficient supplies of forage, and production of both meat and dairy products were well above average.

Meat produced for export during the year ending September 30, 1949 was reported at 762 million pounds, compared to 777 million in 1947-48. Actual exports, however, were below those of the previous year. During 1949-50, the contract price the United Kingdom will pay for New Zealand meat will increase 7-1/2 percent, as compared to 1948-49; since exports to the United Kingdom represent the bulk of New Zealand production, higher prices to producers may result in production of as much as 784 million pounds, mostly in beef and lamb.

The contract price for 1949-50 export of butter and cheese to the United Kingdom, affecting about 80 and 95 percent, respectively, of total New Zealand production has also been raised 7-1/2 percent. Butterfat production during the period since August 1 has been running at record levels; if rainfall is sufficient through the remainder of 1949-50, production should continue high. There is, however, some concern over rainfall prospects. Butter and cheese exports reached 146 and 95 thousand tons, respectively, during 1948-49, but the abolition of butter rationing is possible under the new Government; this may result in increased domestic consumption and cause some decrease in exports of butter and cheese during 1949-50.

Current prospects indicate increased production of apples over 1948-49; negotiations are currently under way for exports to the United Kingdom and Europe of one million cases, representing almost half of total production. An estimated 400,000 bushels of dried peas will be available for export during 1949-50; this is about the same as last year, but well above prewar levels.

AFRICA

Summary

Food production in the area of Central and Southern Africa was sharply reduced by wide-spread drought during much of 1949 but all countries except British East Africa, Rhodesia and Nyasaland appear to be in a position to maintain normal or nearly normal food supplies for the 1949-50 consumption year. Food shortages were reported in northern and southern Rhodesia and Nyasaland, and famine conditions exist in parts of Tanganyika. The drought has greatly affected production of meats and dairy products in the Rhodesias which normally produce surplus for other African areas.

A large part of the Union of South Africa suffered severe drought, but carryover corn stocks helped to maintain that country's food position for 1949-50. Some areas, such as the Congo, still felt the effects of long droughts the previous year. Cocoa and coffee plantations in the West Coast regions of Angola, Nigeria and the Gold Coast had too much rain, for normal crop production but those areas maintained good food positions and still provided substantial surpluses for export.

Union of South Africa

The Union of South Africa was able to meet the sharp reduction in the 1949 corn crop from carryover stocks, and supplies will be sufficient to meet domestic demands until the 1949-50 crop, which promises to be somewhat larger than the 1948-49 crop, becomes available next spring. Every type of agriculture was adversely affected in the drought area during 1949 but animal husbandry probably suffered most. Thousands of cattle died for lack of pasturage, and beef and mutton are expected to be in short supply until herds can again be built up. Increased production of vegetable oil seeds and oils is one of the most noteworthy postwar developments in South African agriculture. Peanut and sunflower seed production has been expanded rapidly and some vegetable oil seeds will be available for export during 1949-50. Sizeable supplies of citrus and deciduous fruits also will be available for export. Wheat is the only crop imported and about the usual imports will be acquired in 1949-50.

Because of drought, Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia, and Nyasaland entered the 1949-50 consuming year with a shortage of food supplies, particularly corn, meat and dairy products. Increasing population plus all-out production of tobacco in these areas at the expense of food crops indicates future difficulties in narrowing the gap between production and consumption.

Tanganyika

Tanganyika has suffered severely from drought and some areas are producing only one-fourth to one-third of normal crops. Seasonal rains were delayed in the coastal zone, and areas which normally expect early rains in November had received only light and scattered showers. Conditions generally were very dry and in some localities water supplies were falling rapidly.

Every province is facing food shortages to some degree and a few sections are dependent upon other African areas for food supplies. Consular representatives reported in December that one eastern province will face critical food shortages until July if the seasonal rains are further delayed.

Tanganyika is the principal rice growing territory in British East Africa, but estimated production for the calendar year 1949 is believed to be somewhat below 1948. Peanut production for 1949 is estimated at 10.8 short tons compared with 9.1 in 1948.

Kenya

Kenya produced a bumper wheat crop in 1949 and the corn crop was better than expected. Kenya made substantial deliveries to the East African cereals pool and it apparently will be unnecessary to import any grains into East Africa this year. The seasonal long rains failed but the highlands of Kenya and Uganda received needed rains toward the end of the third quarter of 1949. Kenya's coffee crop was also hurt by dry weather in 1949.

Belgian Congo

The Belgian Congo's principal food exports are palm and other vegetable oils, and coffee. Production and exports of palm oil in 1949 appear to have been maintained at the record annual rate established in 1948, and plans call for further expansion, chiefly by European plantations. However, the rate of expansion of palm oil plantations is not climbing so fast as it did immediately after the war. Palm oil production amounted to 171,900 short tons in 1948, approximately 16 percent above that of the previous year. Incomplete information indicates normal crop progress in 1949 with production south of the Equator perhaps somewhat below average because of an abnormally long dry season in 1948.

Nigeria

The 1949-50 production of cocoa, Nigeria's most important export crop, will be somewhat smaller than 1948-49 production. Unseasonably late and heavy rains in the western provinces where cocoa flourishes resulted in

the spread of Black Pod disease which reduced yields. Since rains were still falling in mid-November an accurate survey of damage was impossible, but the general opinion is that November rains caused the loss of 11,000 to 17,000 short tons of cocoa because of resultant Black Pod disease. Palm nuts and oil production in 1949 showed a slight increase over 1948 and exports were well maintained.

Due to the lateness, scarcity and maldistribution of rains in Nigeria's northern provinces, this season's exportable portion of peanuts is expected to be one-third below last year's, or about 245,000 short tons, unshelled. Deficient rainfall also reduced the main food crops (chiefly sorghum and millet) of the Northern Provinces; consequently it is expected more peanuts will be consumed locally for food than usual. The percentage used for food domestically is normally about two-fifths of the total grown. No famine conditions are foreseen, but shortages are expected on the desert fringes. Because of these shortages, food crops likely will be emphasized next season.

Madagascar

Despite severe droughts in parts of Madagascar in 1949, the food situation on that island seems to be reasonably good. Rice is the main native staple, and favorable weather in the second half of the year raised estimates of 1949 production to 486,000 short tons, which is considered a normal crop. (The 1948 production was 517,000 short tons.) There likely will be no exportable surplus of rice, but it is hoped 1949 production will meet domestic needs. Manioc, another crop used much for native consumption as well as in food processing, is estimated at about 220,000 short tons more than the 827,000-ton yield of 1948. The corn crop suffered substantially from drought and 1949 production totaled no more than 55,000 short tons compared with an early-season estimate of 110,000 tons.

Coffee is the island's most important money export and 1949-50 production is expected to be 29,000 to 30,000 short tons, which would be 3,000 to 4,000 tons over the 1948-49 crop. All coffee exports go to France. The spice crops---vanilla beans, cloves and pepper---were smaller in 1949 than in 1948. Madagascar leads the world in vanilla bean production, but its 1949-50 crop, estimated at about 110 short tons, is the smallest of recent years due to unfavorable weather, low prices and labor shortages. The 1948-49 vanilla bean crop was 508 short tons.

LATIN AMERICA

Adverse weather conditions during 1949 lowered production of food crops in Latin America, and exports were somewhat below previous post war years. Supplies for domestic use, however, were generally adequate, and food consumption was probably at an all-time high. Export controls were employed in practically all countries to insure adequate food supplies for the domestic market. In some cases these controls resulted in drastic reductions in exports. A general increase in food consumption and unfavorable weather in a few countries indicates that the exportable surplus of food from Latin America in 1950 will not exceed the quantity available during 1949. Most of the coffee producing countries in Latin America harvested crops which were about normal in 1949 and expect little change in production for the next year. Exportable production of coffee in 1949-50 is forecast at 24,589 thousand bags, as compared with 27,478 thousand in 1948-49 and a 1935-36 to 1939-40 average of 31,900 thousand. Supplies of wheat available for export during 1950 are expected to approximate that of 1949, but a substantial increase in exportable surplus of meat is expected.

Cuba

Cuban sugar production in 1950 will be somewhat lower than last year because of a drought in the latter part of the year 1948 and early part of 1949, which damaged the cane planted at that time. The 1950 crop has been estimated at 5,300,000 short tons as compared to about 5,763,000 tons last year. Sugar is Cuba's chief export crop, but corn, beans and rice are the basic foods for domestic consumption. In the province of Oriente, the area of commercial production of beans and corn, rainfall as a whole has been sufficient since the beginning of the planting season in August, 1949, and good production from the main bean crop and the secondary corn crop is expected.

Large quantities of rice are imported to supplement domestic supplies. The Cuban Government, under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, has established a tariff import quota of 450 million pounds on rice for the crop year ending June 30, 1950. Practically all of this quota has now been shipped. It is not yet known whether the quota will be raised to allow additional imports at the reduced rate of duty during the remainder of the crop year.

Mexico

Mexican crop production in 1949 in the central and southern parts of the country was definitely lower than in 1948 because of drought, but in northern Mexico unusually large amounts of rain during the growing season resulted in larger crops than are common in that region. The adverse weather conditions in central and southern Mexico are expected to result in a decline in the production of corn, the basic food in the national diet. Decreases also occurred in 1949 production of wheat. Because of

reduced wheat and corn crops, imports of these two commodities for the consumption year 1949-50 will need to be larger than last year. Part of the reduction in the corn supply, however, will be offset by a larger than usual carryover from 1948 and in addition the Mexican Government is trying to encourage farmers in tropical regions to plant more corn during the winter season for harvest in April and May 1950. No decrease in production is expected in the case of such other important foods as beans, rice, sugar and oilseeds.

In order to maintain the 1948-49 level of consumption in Mexico of the chief food products during 1949-50, the following imports will probably be required: corn, 6,000,000 bushels; wheat, 10,000,000 bushels; powdered milk, 5,000 short tons; and fats and oils, 18,000 tons.

Colombia

Food production is increasing steadily as a result of limitations on import high domestic prices, and improved farming practices. These factors, together with favorable weather during 1949, led to record crops of corn, rice, wheat and barley. Sugar production increased 30 percent over the previous year. Oilseed and dairy production were also higher. Reduction in food imports was due largely to Colombia's poor dollar position, and resulted in shortages for many foodstuffs. The outlook for 1950 is for a continued increase in the area planted to basic food crops. The import situation is likely to ease with the expected improvement in the dollar position. Larger wheat imports are expected, and substantial quantities of copra and cacao will be required. Banana exports in 1950 are expected to be higher than the 6,000,000 stems shipped last year. Coffee production continues to expand slowly, with a slight increase in exports expected this coming year.

Peru

During 1949 the Peruvian Government was the sole importer of wheat, the principal food for which domestic production is not sufficient to meet consumption needs. Domestic production supplied only about half of the 11 million bushels of wheat consumed in 1948-49. About two-thirds or approximately 350 thousand short tons of Peruvian sugar production is normally available for export. This is the only food crop from which a significant exportable surplus can be expected in 1950.

Brazil

Production of food crops was at or near record levels in Brazil during most of 1949, although there was some decline in the central part of the country as a result of adverse weather. The output of meat and dairy products was at an all-time high. Due to increased consumption, not as much food was exported as during other post-war years. As a result of Government controls to insure adequate supplies for the domestic market, exports of rice, the principal food export, were the lowest in 20 years.

Brazil now produces about half the world's exportable supply of coffee, compared to a 1935-39 average of 63 percent. The 1949 harvest provided about 14.4 million bags for export; this is normal for the post-war period, but well below the annual prewar average of approximately 22.6 million bags. Prospects are that the 1950 crop will be at least equal to 1949.

Argentina

During 1950 Argentina will continue to have a plentiful food supply with important quantities for export, but with reduced prospects for exports of some commodities, particularly corn. The only important food imports will be such tropical products as spices, bananas, cacao, tea and coffee.

Earlier forecasts for an unusually good grain crop will not be realized in Argentina because of dry weather during the growing season, but yields are generally still above average. The area planted to corn is down sharply from prewar levels because of farmer dissatisfaction with official prices and because the government buying agency has been slow in taking delivery with consequent losses on farm-stored corn. Production of corn may be as much as 60 million bushels less for the year than the estimated 180 million bushels in 1948-49. The wheat crop, however, is expected to show an increase in 1949-50 to 210 million bushels as compared to 190 million bushels last year.

During the year August 1, 1948 through July 31, 1949 Argentina exported an estimated 1.9 million short tons of wheat, approximately the same amount of corn and some 482,000 tons of other cereals. Judging from the current stocks and crop prospects for small grains, similar amounts of the latter may be exported during 1949-50 but there will be little or no surplus of corn because of lower production. A substantial increase is expected in 1949-50 exports of edible vegetable oils; an estimated 110,000 short tons will be exported in 1949-50 compared to only 42,000 in 1948-49. Since meat exports were held back during 1948-49 pending negotiation of the recently-signed United Kingdom-Argentine trade agreement, a substantial increase in meat shipments is expected during 1949-50, possibly 550,000 short tons.

Uruguay

Record production of food crops in Uruguay during 1949 made possible the export of 110,000 short tons of wheat flour. Meat exports were also up and are estimated to have totalled some 100,000 tons for the year. Export demand for meat was limited during the last few months of 1949, although it is expected that the German-Uruguayan Agreement will stimulate sales in 1950. A sharp decrease in production of grains and feeds for 1950 is foreseen because of hot, dry weather in the grain producing areas. Wheat production from the crop now being harvested may show a decrease of almost 50 percent below the 564,000 short tons produced for last year, with none available for export.

Chile

A satisfactory crop year in Chile resulted in generally adequate food supplies during 1949. However, because of dry weather, during the last half of 1949, 1950 overall food production is estimated below that of the past two years. Small surpluses of grain and pulse crops were exported during 1949, but availabilities are expected to drop off in 1950. Early in 1949 it was expected that about 3 and one-half million bushels of wheat would be available for export. After about one-quarter of this amount had been exported, however, it became apparent that the 1949-50 crop would be small and further exports were prohibited. As a result of the prolonged drought it is possible that Chile may have to import some wheat during 1950.

CEREALS

Another favorable harvest of the principal grain crops was recorded in 1949 for most areas. Though slightly smaller than in 1948, world production of these crops in 1949 was larger than the prewar average (1935-39) for the second year in succession. Increased production of wheat, corn, and oats in the United States is the main factor in the substantial gain over the prewar level.

A high level of world trade provided largely by record exports of grain from the United States during the 1948-49 marketing season, combined with two years (1948 and 1949) of relatively favorable production in Europe - the world's principal deficit area - has reduced 1949-50 import requirements from the abnormally high level of recent years. The improved supply position is reflected in a removal of bread rations in nearly all countries. Feed grain supplies are also sufficient to maintain the improvement made in the livestock industry during the past year.

Production

The world's 1949 harvest of breadgrains (wheat and rye) is estimated at about 208 million long tons, compared with the record crop of 213 million tons a year ago and the 1935-39 average of 205 million tons. In contrast with other areas, breadgrain production in North America and Asia was substantially below the high 1948 level, largely because of smaller wheat crops in the United States and China.

The production pattern, by continents, is shown in the following tables:

Bread grain production 1/

Year	Area or continent							
	: North :		: South :		: World			
	:America:	Europe:	U.S.S.R.:	Asia	Africa:	America:	Oceania:	total
Thousand long tons								
Av. 1935-39	30,440	61,900	55,340	40,490	3,860	7,800	4,745	204,575
1946	43,010	47,830	38,750	42,910	3,870	7,640	3,300	187,310
1947	47,190	39,100	46,520	41,280	3,460	9,130	6,030	192,770
1948	46,830	55,465	50,700	43,085	3,965	7,500	5,230	212,780
1949	41,220	56,920	52,590	39,945	4,230	7,640	5,255	207,800

1/ Wheat and rye.

Coarse grain production 1/

Year	Area or continent							
	: North :	:	:	:	:	: South :	:	: World
	: America :	: Europe :	: U.S.S.R. :	: Asia :	: Africa :	: America :	: Oceania :	: total
	Thousand long tons							
Av. 1935-39	87,740	54,760	30,000	32,970	9,280	16,070	840	231,660
1946	120,810	41,220	14,260	31,290	8,860	15,000	780	232,220
1947	93,810	45,720	22,430	32,590	9,560	15,130	1,480	220,720
1948	133,180	49,840	21,270	32,390	9,310	13,690	1,070	260,750
1949	119,530	50,630	21,210	31,060	10,130	13,450	1,040	247,050

1/ Corn, barley, and oats.

The European crop, estimated at 56.9 million tons of wheat and rye combined was about 3 percent larger than the 1948 harvest, which was the best postwar production up to that time. The 1949 crop was, however, about 8 percent below the average production for 1935-39, because European average was still somewhat below average. Yields per acre were generally high following unusually favorable growing conditions in most countries and some new yield records were reported. Significantly, a good part of the increase occurred in the normally deficit countries of the Continent.

Breadgrain crops in the Soviet Union were also indicated to be larger than in 1948 though still about 5 percent below the prewar average. The gain over last year's harvest appears to have taken place wholly in wheat, with the rye crop estimated to be about the same as the 1948 output. Increased seedings were responsible for the wheat gains, the acreage being about 8 percent above last year's seedings, according to reports.

The Asiatic breadgrain total, estimated at about 40 million long tons, was only slightly below average, and 7 percent less than the large production a year ago. Harvests in other areas (Africa, South America, and Oceania) show no significant change from the 1948 level.

The world's production of coarse grains (corn, oats, and barley) in 1949 is estimated at 247 million tons. This was second only to the record crop of 260 million long tons a year earlier and 6 percent above the prewar average of 232 million tons. The principal change from a year ago is seen in the total for North America, which is down about 10 percent, but is still about a third larger than in 1935-39. Substantial increases in the United States crops of corn and oats account for the greater part of the change from the prewar average period. Changes from the 1948 crop in other areas are relatively minor, the only ones of any importance being an increase of 800,000 tons in continental Europe and a decline of 1.3 million long tons.

in Asia, mainly in Turkey and China.

Prospects for fall-sown grain are generally favorable over most of Europe and the United States. Though actual estimates of grain acreage seeded in Europe for harvest in 1950 are available for very few countries, available information points to some net increase in seedings for Europe, since increases reported for a number of countries, especially the United Kingdom, Germany, Poland, Rumania and Italy appear to outweigh small declines in some of the less important producing countries. Winter sowings constitute the bulk of the breadgrain crop in these countries, spring sowings normally amounting to less than 10 percent of the total. Condition of the fall-sown grains was unusually favorable in most European areas, at latest report.

Winter wheat seedings in the United States were made under mostly favorable conditions. The acreage sown was 53 million acres, 15 percent less than for the 1949 crop, but still 11 percent above average. As of January 1, the condition of the crop was generally good. Winter wheat seedings have been about 70 percent of total wheat sown in the United States during the past 10 years. Winter wheat acreage in Canada, in contrast, is very small -- normally around 5 percent of the total. Fall-sown wheat for the 1950 crop was increased by 14 percent over last year's seedings, bringing the acreage to 966,000 acres. Conditions were much more favorable than for the 1949 crop, which was sown under very dry conditions, continuing throughout the fall. Winter rye seedings in Canada fell off about 30 percent from the 1.2 million acres sown in 1948.

In the Pacific area, official estimates are not available for India's recently seeded wheat acreage, for harvest in March-May. Trade estimates indicate some increase over last year's area. Soil conditions were reported excellent at the beginning of the seeding period. Later reports, however, speak of an urgent need for rain, to prevent deterioration. In Japan, the acreage of wheat and barley sown last fall for harvest in 1950 is expected to show a slight increase over 1948. Information on winter grain prospects in China is not available.

Requirements and Supplies

Total world breadgrain import requirements for 1949-50 are now expected to be reduced 10 percent or more from the total 1948-49 exports of 26.7 million long tons (970 million bushels of wheat and flour, in terms of wheat, and 30 million bushels of rye). Supplies of wheat available for export in the principal surplus-producing areas are adequate to meet the expected demand, but significant increases in stocks are not expected except in the United States. Preliminary indications are that total exports of wheat and rye during the first six months of the 1949-50 marketing season will approach 410 million bushels compared with 488 million during July-December 1948. The volume of world trade in breadgrains will probably expand during January-June, 1950, but the extent to which the total will exceed that of the first half of the 1949-50 year will depend on crop prospects in the spring of 1950 and on the ability of importing countries to

overcome current trade difficulties.

The reduced level of trade thus far in 1949-50 (nearly all of which reduction has occurred in total exports from the United States) reflects the improved supply position in nearly all of the important importing countries. Two successive years (1948 and 1949) of relatively favorable production in Europe - the world's principal deficit area - combined with abnormally high breadgrain imports, have resulted in increased reserves and a general relaxation of controls governing bread rations, flour extraction rates, collections, and utilization programs. Another result in exporting countries has been a return to more competitive conditions in the international grain trade. Terms and conditions of trade are once more assuming importance in place of the critical need which characterized the postwar period through 1947-48.

World import requirements for feed grains in 1949-50 are expected to equal or exceed slightly the total of approximately 10 million long tons of corn, oats, barley, and sorghums moving in world trade during the 1948-49 season. Feedgrain supplies available to Europe are expected to be sufficient to maintain for the current season the improvement made in the livestock industry during the past year.

The most significant development in exporting countries has been the continued decline of Argentina as an important source of supply, particularly for corn. As a result of a sharply reduced level of acreage and production of corn, annual exports of feed grains from that country during recent years have averaged less than half the prewar figure of over 7 million long tons. Moreover, latest reports from Buenos Aires indicate that continued deterioration as a result of drought, will provide little or no corn for export from the Argentine crop coming to harvest in March-April of this year. In contrast, a substantial increase in the level of corn production in the United States has placed this country in a position as the world's principal source of supply of feed grains for export.

RICE

The 1949-50 (August-July) world rice harvest is estimated at 3 percent less than the preceding year, and slightly above the prewar average. Expressed in terms of milled rice, world production approximates 116,000,000 short tons compared with 119,000,000 the year before, and with an average of 115,000,000 tons before the war (1935-36/39-40). Most of the decrease is in the deficit countries of Asia, particularly China, but an over-all reduction also occurred in the surplus producing countries of the Orient.

Approximately 93 percent of the world rice harvest is in Asia, and nearly 70 percent of total exports are shipped from the surplus countries of Asia. The Orient's per capita consumption of rice, the most important item in the diet of the majority of the population, remains below the prewar level. While rice production in relation to prewar has increased slightly, population has increased by a substantial margin. Accordingly, other foods necessarily have had to replace rice to a considerable extent.

Exportable supplies from the 1949-50 world crop mostly for delivery in 1950 are estimated at less than one-half of prewar average exports of 8,700,000 tons. The forecast of availabilities is 4,000,000 tons, or slightly less than 1949 exports of around 4,100,000 tons. This drop in export supplies is due primarily to the smaller crops in Asia's surplus producing countries. These supplies are between 5 and 10 percent less than last year and equal to a little more than one-third of prewar average shipments. On the other hand, export supplies in Europe and North and South America may exceed slightly exports in 1949.

Exporting countries

From Asia's surplus rice producing region, Thailand, Burma, and French Indochina, total export availabilities are estimated at 2,300,000 tons compared with actual deliveries of 2,475,000 tons in 1949 and prewar exports of 6,300,000 tons. The acreage and production decline in this area, which reversed the recovery trend toward the prewar crop level, was entirely due to insurgent activities in Burma and French Indochina.

Supplies from Thailand's large crop just harvested, together with stocks on hand of more than 200,000 short tons, are expected to approximate 1,300,000 tons compared with exports of about 1,100,000 tons in 1949. Lack of rain retarded planting of the crop, but late-season rainfall was sufficient to produce relatively high yields per acre, and production is expected to approach the near-record of last year.

Although not all of Burma's 1949 rice surplus was exported, deliveries were maintained at a relatively high level with the assistance of armed convoys. As a result, the 1,300,000 short tons exported in 1949 were only slightly below 1948, and less than one-half of prewar shipments.

Exports became progressively smaller, however, toward the end of the year as the movement of rough rice from the interior to the ports became more difficult. Export supplies in 1950 are expected to be only about 950,000 short tons, as acreage and production in 1949-50 were reduced around 20 percent by unsettled conditions. The volume of stocks accumulated in insurgent territory is not known, but if this were taken into consideration, the export availabilities might be increased 200,000 tons.

In French Indochina, internal warfare in 1949 prevented exportation of rice and 1950 exports may not exceed the 60,000 tons shipped that year. Stocks of 700,000 tons reportedly were blockaded in the interior. Exports in 1949 were only 4 percent of the prewar average of 1,600,000 tons.

Korea is expected to ship more than 100,000 tons to Japan in 1950, and Formosa should have rice for export. In postwar years any surplus has been shipped to China proper. Formosa's production increased about 180,000 tons in 1949-50, and while heavy immigration from China will have increased 1950 requirements, some surplus should be available for shipment to foreign countries.

Italy decreased rice acreage in 1949 because of the accumulation of large carry-over stocks at planting time. Fairly good yields were harvested, however, and the crop exceeded that of the year before. Export supplies therefore are estimated at around 150,000 tons of milled rice.

Export supplies from North America exceed the preceding year's record. The United States and Mexico harvested the largest crops in history, increasing the total supplies available for shipment to foreign countries to 650,000 tons. Crop conditions were good in El Salvador, and a relatively small surplus will probably be exported.

Rice production statistics for most South American countries are not yet available, since the harvest will not be completed for some months. Present indications are that the total production may show a moderate gain over the preceding year, and exportable supplies may exceed slightly the 1949 trade.

Prospects are that Brazil's crop may exceed the preceding year's harvest, and that the domestic demand will again absorb all the supplies from the new crop. Brazilian rice consumption in recent years has increased sharply and a production gain in the last decade of about 800,000 short tons of milled rice is now being utilized within the country. Exports dropped from 475 million pounds in 1948 to only approximately 2 million pounds in 1949. Current advances in prices indicate the stock position at the beginning of the marketing season (June-May) may be light, and that export supplies during 1950 again may be negligible.

In Ecuador current supplies of around 60,000 tons for export are the largest in several years. British Guiana's crop may exceed that of last year, and exports to the British West Indies may approximate those of 1949. A reduced demand in Chile may result in the exportation of around 5,000 tons, the same as in 1949.

Importing countries

The countries having the greatest need for rice imports are in Asia - Japan, India, Ceylon, Malaya, China, Pakistan, and Indonesia. With the exception of China, Pakistan, and possibly Indonesia, the 1949-50 production in these countries is equal to or above that of a year earlier. Reduced supplies of rice in Asia's exporting countries may result in a continued and/or expanded utilization of rice substitutes, such as other food grains, sweet and white potatoes, and manioc. Import requirements of the importing countries of the Western Hemisphere are less than the total export supplies of the Hemisphere.

RICE (in terms of milled): World production and trade, 1935-36 to 1939-40,
estimated production and export supplies, 1949-50 1/.

Continent and country	Estimated production		Apparent domestic disappearance	International trade		
	1935-36 to 1939-40	1949-50 <u>2/</u>	1936-1940	Prewar average Net imports	average Net exports	Export supplies 1950 <u>2/</u>
	sh. tons	sh. tons	sh. tons	sh. tons	sh. tons	sh. tons
Western Hemisphere:						
North America:						
United States.....	729:	1,304:	622	-	107:	600
Mexico.....	59:	107:	50	-	9:	50
Estimated total	924:	1,659:	1,140	332	116:	660
South America:						
Brazil.....	971:	<u>3/</u>	929	-	42:	2
British Guiana.....	52:	<u>3/</u>	35	-	17:	25
Ecuador.....	50:	<u>3/</u>	37	-	13:	60
Others.....	235:	<u>3/</u>	328	101	8:	30
Estimated total.....	1,308:	2,629:	1,329	101	80:	117
Total Western Hemisphere	2,232:	4,288:	2,469	433	196:	777
Asia:						
French Indochina.....	5,039:	4,253:	3,429	-	1,610:	50
Thailand.....	3,356:	3,938:	1,896	-	1,460:	1,300
Burma.....	5,489:	3,214:	2,221	-	3,268:	950
China.....	38,630:	34,335:	39,041	411	-	-
Japan.....	9,385:	9,432:	11,331	1,946	-	-
Korea.....	3,083: <u>4/</u>	2,386:	2,022	-	1,061:	<u>4/</u> 110
Taiwan.....	1,350:	1,296:	641	-	709:	<u>3/</u>
Philippines.....	1,652:	1,953:	1,717	65	-	-
Malayan Union.....	427:	<u>3/</u>	1,206	779	-	-
Indonesia.....	6,960:	<u>3/</u>	7,172	212	-	-
India.....	22,043:	24,964:	(32,137	(1,552	-	-
Pakistan.....	8,542:	9,214:	((-	-
Others.....	4,116:	13,041:	5,179	1,095	32:	<u>3/</u>
Estimated total.....	110,072:	107,850:	107,992	6,060	8,140:	2,740
Europe:						
Italy.....	550:	484:	382	-	168:	150
Estimated total.....	777:	805:	2,053	1,446	170:	150
Africa:						
Egypt.....	522:	977:	390	-	132:	330
Estimated total.....	1,730:	2,684:	1,998	455	156:	<u>3/</u> 40
Estimated world total.....	115,070:	115,974:	114,770	8,400	8,700:	4,000

1/ For countries of Asia and Africa, rough rice is converted to terms of milled at 70 percent, for other countries at 65 percent. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Unavailable. 4/ South Korea only.

SUGAR

With only slight changes in the sugar production prospect in 1949-50 compared with the previous season, it is probable that the supply situation will also be little different from that of 1948-49. In the last season sugar supplies in the exporting areas were gradually absorbed by the importing countries as effective means of payment could be arranged. In 1949-50 the prospect is that slightly less sugar will be available in the dollar areas which will put less strain on the exchange position of the importing countries which are short of dollars. Cuba, the principal supplier of dollar sugar, was able to market all of the 1948-49 crop and the prospect is that with a slight decline in output in 1949-50 much the same situation will prevail. Much depends, however, on the contribution of dollar exchange by ECA toward the requirements of the importers.

From a consumption standpoint the world could absorb more sugar at current prices than is now in prospect if exchange was not an item of consideration. The United Kingdom, Norway, Western Germany, India and Japan in particular could use more sugar than was consumed in 1948-49. Most other countries have derationed sugar and supplies have been ample to cover market requirements, probably because prices, for one reason or another, are higher than the so-called world level. Since carry-over and pipeline supplies are still somewhat below normal peace-time levels, the supply-demand situation, provided payment difficulties are avoided, could tighten slightly during the current season. World production of beet and cane sugar for the 1949-50 season is indicated at 36,646,000 short tons (raw value), nearly 2 percent less than the record large crop of 37,249,000 tons produced in 1948-49, but almost 6 percent more than the 5-year (1935-39) average of 34,718,000 tons.

In North and Central America, including the West Indies, current prospects point to a total output of 10,896,000 short tons, compared with 11,226,000 tons produced in 1948-49 and the prewar average of 7,811,000 tons. The sizeable decreases in Cuba and Puerto Rico more than offset increases elsewhere in the area. The smaller prospect in Cuba is attributed both to a smaller area for harvest and to slightly less favorable growing weather, whereas in Puerto Rico it is indicated that sufficient cane will be available to produce as much sugar as last season, but all of the standing cane probably will not be cut because of marketing quotas. Canada has a record large crop of beet sugar this season and the sugar crops in the United States, the British West Indies, and Mexico are slightly larger.

The announced quota for the United States consumption in 1950 is 7.5 million short tons which is about the same as was actually delivered for consumption in 1949. An estimated deficit of 300,000 tons in the Philippine quota has been reallocated to Cuba and other foreign areas. Last year Cuba's total final quota was 3,092,976 tons compared with allocations to date this season of 2,504,400 tons. The final total so allocated this season will depend upon whether further deficits occur in other supplying areas.

A serious effort was made this season to increase the sugar output in Europe (excluding the U.S.S.R.) but unfavorable growing weather prevented any increase. Early reports indicate a total sugar production of 7,310,000 short tons compared with 7,408,000 tons in 1948-49 and the 5-year (1935-39) average

of 7,410,000 tons. In many countries the acreage planted to sugar beets was increased substantially and this resulted in increased sugar production but in France, Germany, the United Kingdom, and Spain unfavorable weather resulted in a decreased sugar output. Import requirements for the area as a whole may be a little different than those of last season.

In the U. S. S. R. the field output of sugar beets is reported to have been no larger than in 1948, but the quantity sliced at the sugar factories is expected to be somewhat larger. Early indications point to a total sugar production this season of 2,200,000 short tons. This is about 10 percent more than in 1948-49 but about 24 percent below the prewar average of 2,887,000 tons.

In Asia it appears that the 1949-50 sugar output will be about 100,000 tons less than the 9,124,000 short tons produced in 1948-49, and nearly 1.8 million tons less than the 5-year (1935-39) average. Production in India and Pakistan, in terms of gur, is expected to be about the same as last year. Moderate increases in the Philippines, and Java should be more than offset by decreases elsewhere, particularly in Formosa and China. Formosa had a moderate carry-over which, together with the new crop, probably will move to Japan, Europe and the Near East. All of the Philippine supplies will go to the United States.

Sugar production in South America as a whole is expected to total 3,408,000 short tons in 1949-50 compared with 3,659,000 tons in 1948-49 and the 5-year (1935-39) average of 2,414,000 tons. A sharp decrease in Brazil more than offset slight increases in most of the other countries. Export supplies are expected to be shipped to normal markets.

Sugar production in Africa and adjacent Islands is forecast at 1,629,000 short tons in 1949-50 or about the same as in 1948-49, and compares with the 5-year (1935-39) average of 1,295,000 tons. Slight increases in Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Angola, and Reunion are about offset by decreases in British East Africa, Egypt and the Union of South Africa. Any surpluses in these areas will be shipped largely to France, Portugal and the United Kingdom.

Not much change is indicated in the sugar prospect for Oceania, where the 1949-50 output will be about the same as the 2,193,000 tons produced in 1948-49. Australian and Fiji export surpluses are scheduled for the United Kingdom and Canada.

SUGAR (raw value): Production in specified countries
Averages 1935-39, 1940-44, and annual 1946-49 1/

Continent and country	Averages		1946	1947	1948	1949 <u>2/</u>
	1935-39	1940-44				
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	short	short	short	short	short	short
	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons
North America						
Mexico	364	455	578	714	754	780
United States						
(beet and cane)	1,992	1,880	1,948	2,211	1,846	2,100
Cuba	3,183	3,685	6,448	6,675	5,763	5,300
Dominican Republic	491	485	512	465	525	500
Puerto Rico	977	949	1,095	1,116	1,277	1,075
British West Indies	471	453	485	476	667	695
Other countries	333	346	377	341	394	446
Total North America	7,811	8,253	11,443	11,998	11,226	10,896
Europe (Beet)						
Czechoslovakia	721	680	651	387	697	728
France	1,059	636	842	728	1,061	918
Germany	2,122 <u>3/2</u>	1,172 <u>3/1</u>	1,102 <u>3/</u>	863 <u>3/</u>	1,437 <u>3/</u>	1,224 <u>3/</u>
Italy	416	418	312	270	498	514
Netherlands	257	212	273	246	314	440
Poland and Danzig	548	531 <u>3/</u>	469 <u>3/</u>	584 <u>3/</u>	765 <u>3/</u>	909 <u>3/</u>
United Kingdom	527	560	668	523	679	588
Other countries	1,760	1,617	1,267	1,350	1,957	1,989
Total Europe (excl. U.S.S.R.)	7,410	6,826	5,584	4,951	7,408	7,310
U. S. S. R. (Europe and Asia) (Beet) <u>4/</u>	2,887	1,283	775	1,700	2,000	2,200
Asia (Cane)						
Formosa	1,202	922	38	328	696	550
Pakistan <u>5/</u>	799	797	954	989	1,141	1,150
India <u>5/</u>	5,369	5,154	5,503	6,499	5,582	5,600
Java and Madura <u>6/</u>	1,447	953	25	100	265	320
Philippine Islands <u>7/</u>	1,127	438	132	436	762	830
Other countries	869	809	621	644	678	570
Total Asia (excl. U.S.S.R.)	10,813	9,073	7,273	8,996	9,124	9,020

(continued)

SUGAR (continued)

Continent and country	Averages		1946	1947	1948	1949 ^{2/}
	1935-39	1940-44				
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	short	short	short	short	short	short
	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons
South America (Cane)						
Argentina	480	479	700	668	623	661
Brazil	1,159	1,382	1,633	1,913	2,026	1,700
Peru	448	476	476	549	542	550
Other countries	327	345	380	424	468	497
Total South America	2,414	2,682	3,189	3,554	3,659	3,408
Africa (Cane)						
Egypt	167	183	210	245	225	180
Mauritius	321	330	320	386	432	470
Union of South Africa	498	550	475	512	608	584
Other countries	303	299	298	360	374	395
Total Africa	1,295	1,362	1,303	1,503	1,639	1,629
Oceania (Cane)						
Australia	894	761	618	678	1,056	1,036
Hawaiian Islands	982	911	872	835	985	985
Other countries	212	145	131	157	152	162
Total Oceania	2,088	1,817	1,621	1,670	2,193	2,183
World Total -						
(beet and cane)	34,718	31,296	31,188	34,372	37,249	36,646

1/ Years shown are for crop years; generally the harvesting season begins in the fall months of the years shown or in the early months of the following year, except in certain cane-sugar producing countries in the Southern Hemisphere, such as Australia, Mauritius, Union of South Africa, etc., where the season begins in May or June of the year shown. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Data not comparable with previous years because of boundary changes. 4/ Includes Latvia and Lithuania. 5/ Data are in terms of gur, a low grade of brown sugar. 6/ Data for Java are for the calendar years following the years shown. 7/ Includes centrifugal and muscovado sugar.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U. S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information. Estimates of countries having boundary changes have been adjusted to prewar boundaries except as noted.

WORLD EDIBLE PULSE SITUATION 1949-50

In 1949-50 aggregate production of dry edible beans, peas, lentils and chickpeas, (garbanzos both food and feed types) is estimated in the major producing countries at 332 million bags of 100 pounds. This is only slightly below the estimated production of last year. But it is 15 percent more than was produced in the prewar years 1935-39. This estimate of increase from prewar is based on an estimated 1949 aggregate production of only 307 million bags instead of the 332 million bags as shown in the table. The smaller figure reflects an adjustment for chickpea producing areas in India reported in 1948 and 1949 but not reported in the previous period 1/.

All of the decline from last year occurred in beans, peas and lentils, the 1949 production of chickpeas having increased from last year by 6.2 million bags or 5 percent. Pea production declined by 5 million bags or 6 percent, beans by 2 million bags or 2 percent and lentils by 300,000 bags or 6 percent. Thus, the increase of chickpea production was slightly more than offset by the decline of bean, pea and lentil production. The situation is somewhat different in relation to prewar. The 1949 aggregate production is 15 percent above prewar; chickpeas are up 22 percent, peas 16 percent and beans and lentils 8 percent each.

Sizeable carryovers of beans and chickpeas were available at the beginning of the consumption year in North America. In other areas of the world carry-over was likely insignificant as supplies in non dollar areas likely moved into consumption before the end of the 1948-49 consumption year.

Considering the carryover and that aggregate world production in 1949 was up 15 percent from prewar, compared to population up only 10% or slightly more, the per capita supply of pulses in the world appears to be a little above normal for the 1949-50 season. However, when allowances are made for shifts in the production of the various kinds of pulse, for taste preferences for certain kinds of pulse in different areas, and for inflexibilities in the international trade thereof, the supply demand picture is considerably out of normal adjustment. For example, the consumption and production of chickpeas, the largest of the world's pulse crops and the pulse reporting the largest increase of production in 1949 is confined by taste preference largely to the Far East, to the Mediterranean Basin and the Central American Areas of Mexico, Cuba, etc.

Chickpea production in 1949, after adjustment for new areas in India, is estimated at 105 million bags or 22 percent above the prewar estimate of 86 million bags. Considering the more moderate increase of population, 1/In 1946-47 Indian states not previously reporting chickpea production were added. These states added an estimated 3,553,000 acres and 13,305,000 bags of chickpeas in 1946-47 and 4,353,000 acres and 18,838,400 bags in 1947-48. In 1947-48 additional new areas were included which for that crop year added 870,000 acres. At average yields that acreage would produce another 4.5 million bags of chickpeas.

it is apparent that chickpeas are in relatively large supply. But because of taste preferences this plentiful supply is of no practical use outside the normal consuming and producing areas. They are not useful, for example, to offset the shortage of beans and peas that exists in northwestern Europe.

In Northwestern Europe beans and peas constitute the bulk of the pulse crop. Chickpeas in Europe are important only in Spain and in Spain the chickpea production in 1949 was 13 percent below prewar. In all of Europe the 1949 production of beans and peas together was estimated at 33.9 million bags or only 3 percent above the 33.0 million bags produced in prewar. Thus, considering the increase of population and the fact that western Europe is normally a net importer of beans and peas, the 1949 domestic supply is considerably short of the amount needed to provide a prewar per capita supply.

The 1949 production of both beans and peas in the Americas was estimated at 68 million bags. This is 41 percent more than the 48 million bags produced prewar. It is obvious that sizeable surpluses exist here. This is particularly true of beans in the United States and of chickpeas in Mexico.

If normal per capita world consumption and freedom of international trade were to prevail in Europe most of these surpluses might be moved. The beans might move more readily than the chickpeas however, as the chickpea market is limited by taste preference and on the whole, there appears to be an oversupply. In the case of beans, however, the aggregate world supply excluding carryover is only 8 percent larger than prewar which, in view of the increased world population, could readily be consumed within normal consumption habits. Thus, it appears that the major hindrance to comparatively easy utilization of the 1949 bean and pea production are difficulties of international trade.

Shortage of dollars and an apparent European policy of purchasing goods other than pulse with dollar exchange that is available, prevents the movement of what might otherwise be a considerable volume of beans and peas from the Americas to Europe.

Beans, peas, lentils and garbanzos, dry edible: Production by continents,
Averages, 1935-39 and 1940-44, Annual 1948 and 1949

Type and Continent	Production			
	Average		Annual	
	1935- 39	1940-44	1948	1949 1/
	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
Beans				
North America	21,410	26,712	31,605	31,365
Europe	23,546	23,524	22,695	21,792
Asia	37,559	31,551	28,357	27,968
South America	22,423	25,756	31,944	31,445
Africa	1,528	1,621	2,495	2,552
Total	106,466	109,164	117,096	115,122
Peas				
North America	3,417	7,599	4,558	4,068
Europe	9,488	11,492	10,365	12,147
Asia	55,501	46,248	69,052	62,823
South America	711	840	713	705
Africa	639	870	1,297	1,294
Oceania	509	868	743	750
Total	70,265	67,917	86,728	81,787
Lentils				
North America	22	23	44	35
Europe	1,282	1,333	1,618	1,409
Asia	1,438	1,628	1,709	1,497
South America	850	575	856	850
Africa	1,334	1,405	1,409	1,533
Total	4,926	4,964	5,636	5,324
Garbanzos (chickpeas)				
North America	1,116	1,742	2,628	2,339
Europe	4,441	4,772	3,661	4,736
Asia 2/	79,218	77,364	116,073	121,615
South America	323	220	275	275
Africa	880	1,154	1,056	934
Total 2/	85,978	85,252	123,693	129,899
Total pulses 2/	267,635	267,297	333,153	332,132

1/ Preliminary.

2/ In 1948 and 1949 India included about 25 million bags of chickpeas from areas not reported in previous periods.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of the United States Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information. Years refer to year of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere and include the harvest immediately following in the Southern Hemisphere. Averages are for years stated or for the nearest comparable period.

EDIBLE FATS AND OILS

Production in 1949 of edible fats and oils, including the palm oils, is currently estimated at about 20.4 million short tons, an increase of 6 percent over that of 1948. This reflects a further marked improvement in world supplies. However, this production is only slightly larger than the prewar average. And when the world's increase in population is taken into account, per capita supplies will still be considerably below prewar. Moreover, the recovery of production of fats and oils has not been uniform throughout the world. Major increases have occurred on certain continents, and the distribution of world supplies has changed considerably from the prewar period.

While the quantity of food fats and oils potentially available for international trade in 1950 is probably greater than in any previous year, world exports are not expected to equal the 4.6 million tons estimated for 1949. This is because, in addition to the continuation in some countries of rigid governmental controls over exports and imports, and the continuation of relatively high asking prices for surplus fats and oils in non-dollar areas, there has been a substantial increase in domestic supplies in Europe, the world's major market. Furthermore, lack of dollar exchange in Europe -- with certain countries likely to receive smaller grants under dollar-aid programs -- will tend to retard exports from the major surplus countries in the dollar area.

These estimates of production and movement of edible fats and oils include cottonseed, peanut, soybean, olive, sunflower, sesame, and rapeseed (used almost entirely for food), the palm oils, particularly coconut and palm oil. (a large proportion of which has gone into food uses in recent years), butter (see page), lard, tallow and marine oils.

Edible Vegetable Oils

The 1949 production of edible vegetable oils -- not including the palm oils-- was approximately 1 million tons greater than the 1935-39 average and about 432,000 tons greater than in 1948. All edible oil crops with the exception of cottonseed were larger than prewar. The only increase over 1948 in North America occurred in cottonseed and in South America, in sunflower seed and cottonseed. In Europe olive and rapeseed production were considerably greater; in Africa olive oil production rose markedly; and in Asia cottonseed and peanuts showed sizeable increases.

Supplies of edible oilseeds available for international trade, which have been particularly low since the war, are not expected to reach prewar volume in 1950, despite the fact that 1949 exports showed a decided improvement over previous post-war years.

Cottonseed and oil exports should increase in 1950 as the 1949 seed output was the largest since 1940-41. Another record crop of

peanuts has improved the over-all supply, but exports may not increase noticeably during 1950. Improved transportation facilities are moving accumulated stocks more rapidly in British West Africa, but increased domestic demands have greatly reduced supplies available for export from the crop just harvested. Exports from Asia will continue to be limited by increased domestic consumption in producing areas and by disturbed political and economic conditions.

Soybean production during the past year in the United States, now the world's largest producer, is down only slightly from the record outturn of 1948. This country will likely continue to be the principal exporter since supplies available from China and Manchuria are uncertain.

Exports of sunflower seed oil from Argentina are expected to increase in 1950, the result of the large 1949 harvest of sunflower seed.

Increased olive oil output in the principal producing countries of the Mediterranean Basin will greatly improve the availabilities for export in 1950.

Coconut and palm oils

The production of coconut oil in 1949 was greater than the output of the previous year. Coconut groves in the Philippines have apparently recovered from the hurricane damage of late 1947. With continuing improvement in the copra situation in Indonesia, Ceylon, and Malaya, the volume of coconut oil available for importing countries in 1950 should be somewhat larger than in 1949.

Expanding palm-oil production in the Belgian Congo and in British West Africa, and the recovery of production in Indonesia should increase the quantities of palm oil, palm kernels, and palm kernel oil for international trade. The total volume of all palm oils for export in 1950 should exceed that of 1949 by a sizeable margin.

Animal Fats

The world supply of animal fats for direct consumption in 1950 is expected to continue the upward trend of recent years. Total output of 8.0 million tons in 1949 showed a marked improvement over the previous year and approximated the prewar average. Butter production (fat content), estimated at 3.1 million tons, is about 7 percent above the 1948 outturn. Lard production reached approximately 2.7 million tons compared with 2.5 million a year earlier and tallow output in 1949 amounted to 2.2 million, 8 percent larger than in 1948 and 53 percent greater than the 1935-39 average.

Both lard and tallow production in the United States were larger than in 1948 and considerably above prewar. While there was also a

noticeable increase in these commodities in Europe they were still much below prewar.

Marine oils

The production of whale oil is limited by international agreement, and during the past few years the quantity of oil, chiefly from the Antarctic expeditions, has been between 350,000 and 400,000 tons. The volume of fish oil varies considerably from year to year, and unless some fishing areas not fully exploited since the war are again brought into production, the marine oils available for consumption are unlikely to exceed greatly that of recent years.

MILK AND DAIRY PRODUCTS

Milk production in all major producing countries increased during 1949 and is indicated at a level approximately 4 percent above last year. Comparable gains are expected in 1950. The realization of this increase would raise the production of milk during the current year to approximately 8 percent above prewar.

If major milk producing countries do not experience adverse weather conditions any more severe than the drought that occurred in June and July of 1949, dairy supplies should easily fulfill expectations. This is particularly true since most countries are attempting to control the price-cost relationships to dairymen at levels that encourage production. Milk prices in major producing countries with the exception of the United States and Canada have remained about the same or made minor increases during the year. Several trade agreements for dairy products have been committed for the first half of 1950 at higher prices than during the comparable period a year earlier.

Most countries are entering 1950 with sufficient quantities of good quality feed and increased numbers of improved dairy stock. Cow numbers increased in Western Europe and Oceania during 1949 over 1948 by 4 and 3 percent, respectively. In practically every country production per cow increased during 1949. Many European countries, however, are still considerably below their prewar levels in this respect.

European countries increased their milk output in 1949 by 7 percent over 1948 while production in New Zealand and Australia was about 6 percent larger. Canada and the United States produced 1 to 2 percent more in 1949 than in the preceding year. The important dairy countries exceeding their prewar production levels during 1949 were the Netherlands, Norway, Australia, New Zealand, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States. At least five more major producing countries in Europe should be added to this group in 1950. Milk production in Europe in 1949 was about 95 percent of prewar. It must be remembered, however, that prewar production standards will not supply as large a per capita consumption in 1950 as in 1934-38 since there have been considerable increases in the consuming population. It should also be mentioned that the world production statistics are heavily influenced by the United States, which produces five times more milk than any other reporting country ^{1/} and is producing at a level 14 percent above prewar. Thus, the production of the United States, though very important statistically, will be less significant during 1950 as a source of dairy products for importing countries. It is becoming more difficult for the United States to export to countries that have devaluated their currency in relation to the dollar and since shipments under foreign aid recovery programs will probably be reduced in the current year.

The United States is practically the only country with sizeable

^{1/} Includes all major producing countries except India and U. S. S. R.

stocks of manufactured products in excess of a necessary working inventory and a continuance of sizeable stocks in the United States appears likely in 1950.

Fluid milk was generally in sufficient supply in important milk consuming countries during 1949 with the exception of the United Kingdom, Germany and a few Mediterranean countries which experienced near adequate supplies only during the season of flush production. As the demand for fluid milk is being more nearly met, the utilization of a greater portion of the production increases in principal producing countries is being used for factory purposes as will continue to be the situation in 1950. Several countries are consuming fluid milk at a higher rate per capita than previous to the last war.

The butter output in 1949 is indicated at over 7 percent larger than last year due to sizeable increases in Western Europe, New Zealand and the United States and is expected to approximate 8,130 million pounds in 1950. This production will be about 90 percent of prewar. Larger supplies of milk available for factory purposes, relatively strong prices for butterfat and currently short supplies of edible fats and oils in Europe are probably the most encouraging factors. The only countries which have not increased their butter production considerably are the United Kingdom and France, which felt the effect of drought, and Canada, which has recently legalized the production of margarine.

Practically all butter entering trade channels is provided for through bilateral agreements. The United Kingdom receives three-fourths of all butter exports. Secondary importers are Belgium, France and Germany. The approximately 1,100 million pounds of butter exported during 1949 originated principally in Denmark, New Zealand, Australia, Argentina and the Netherlands. Since a large portion of the increase in butter production expected in 1950 will be by these exporting countries, quantities being traded should likewise increase considerably.

The world output of cheese increased notably during 1949 and should be around 19 percent above prewar, due primarily to the 70 percent increase in output by the United States in this period. The outturn of cheese in 1950 should be somewhat larger than 1949. The United States is currently producing over one-third of the total cheese produced by reporting countries 1/. Denmark, Australia and Sweden are the other countries producing at considerably above prewar levels. This large supply of cheese may be utilized less uniformly in 1950 since sizeable exports from the United States to importing sterling area countries will be drastically reduced in 1950. The cheese output by sterling countries should be almost 10 percent over prewar in 1949 due principally to the

1/ Includes all major producing countries except India and U. S. S. R.

previously listed European countries. France and Italy are the countries experiencing the most difficulty in reviving their cheese production from wartime lows.

Exports of cheese in 1949 probably amounted to about 640 million pounds. The United Kingdom was the major importer, while Belgium, Greece and Germany received smaller amounts. New Zealand, the United States, Australia, Canada, the Netherlands, France, Argentina and Denmark were the major suppliers. Cheddar type cheese was the most widely traded variety, with Italian type cheeses a weak second.

Cheese should generally approach a sufficient supply in 1950 except possibly in some Mediterranean countries and in the United Kingdom, a traditional importer.

Canned Milk

The world supply of canned milk in 1950 will probably be at least 5 to 10 percent smaller than in 1949, since the lower level of production by the United States is expected to continue. Even though there is apt to be a smaller quantity provided this year, the world supply will be sufficient for expressed demand. The available supplies of canned milk will probably be more evenly distributed since regional increases in production are expected in European and Oceanic countries. These supplies will be more easily traded in the sterling areas than canned milk from dollar countries.

The United States produced about 80 percent of the world supply of canned milk in 1949 even though its production last year was about 700 million pounds smaller than in 1948. Production of condensed milk during 1949 in the United States was about the same as in 1948, but the output of evaporated, which is almost 8 times larger than condensed, decreased in 1949 from 1948 by approximately 20 percent.

Other more important producers of these products during 1949 were the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Australia and France. These countries will attempt to supply most of the imports needed in the sterling areas this year.

Dried Milk

The supply of whole dried milk in 1949 was indicated at about the same level as in 1948, but the production of dry non-fat milk was at least 35 percent larger than in the previous year. Some further decline may occur in 1950 since the greatest expansion in manufactured products during the current year is expected to be in butter, of which non-fat milk is a residual.

The United States contributed about three-fourths of the world

supply in 1949 but approximately one-half of its production during the year is still in private or government storage. Thus, almost one-third of the world's supply was not consumed during the year. The lack of purchasing power and knowledge of how to use skim milk probably prevented wider use of this product in 1949. The Netherlands, Sweden and Australia were other dairy countries which increased their production of dried milk in 1949 over the previous year. Canada and the United Kingdom were about the only reporting countries which decreased their output from the previous year.

Both dried whole milk and dry non-fat milk will be in sufficient supply during 1950 as they were in 1949.

World exports of non-fat dry milk increased to about 300 million pounds in 1949, of which the United States exported approximately 210 million pounds. This quantity was considerably in excess of the amount exported by the United States in 1948 and probably also will be larger than in 1950. Export of dry whole milk by the United States decreased about 20 percent from the 101 million pounds exported in 1948. The increased exports by other countries probably almost compensated for the decrease.

The main importing countries were the United Kingdom, Germany, India, Japan, Venezuela, France and Greece. The imports of dried milk products during 1949 were probably more widespread than for any other dairy commodity.

MILK: Indicated 1949 production in important
producing countries, with comparisons 1/

Countries	: Average : <u>1934-38</u> : Million : <u>pounds</u>	: 1948 : Million : <u>pounds</u>	: Indicated : <u>1949</u> : Million : <u>pounds</u>
Canada.....	: 15,018	16,645	17,000
United States...	: 105,416	118,337	119,826
Austria.....	: <u>2/</u> 5,602	3,370	3,700
Belgium.....	: 6,790	6,305	7,000
Czechoslovakia..	: <u>3/</u> 9,828	4,976	-
Denmark.....	: <u>4/</u> 11,684	8,982	10,803
Eire.....	: 5,090	4,448	5,026
France.....	: <u>5/</u> 31,457	26,500	27,500
Germany.....	: <u>4/</u> 53,100	-	-
Italy.....	: <u>6/</u> 13,750	-	12,700
Netherlands.....	: 11,180	9,874	11,442
Norway.....	: <u>4/</u> 2,954	3,042	3,330
Sweden.....	: <u>4/</u> 10,238	9,805	10,700
Switzerland <u>7/</u> ..	: <u>4/</u> 6,041	5,004	5,200
United Kingdom..	: 18,424	20,085	20,858
Australia <u>8/</u>	: <u>9/</u> 11,780	12,150	12,758
New Zealand <u>10/</u> .	: <u>11/</u> 9,454	9,520	10,282

- 1/ Cows' milk.
2/ For the year 1934.
3/ For the year 1937.
4/ For the years 1933-1937.
5/ For the years 1937 and 1938.
6/ For the year 1938.
7/ Production includes goats' milk.
8/ Excludes milk fed to calves.
9/ For the years ending June 30.
10/ Utilization of butterfat converted to milk equivalent on the basis of 4.5 percent fat content.
11/ For the year ending July 31.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated from official statistics, U.S. Foreign Service reports, and other information.

MEAT

Meat production in 1949, throughout the major producing countries of the world for which data are available, excluding the Far East, is now estimated to be about 4 percent larger than that of 1948. The 1949 production is expected to exceed the 1934-38 level of 67.0 billion pounds. This increase in production reflects the more favorable grazing and feed-grain situation during the greater part of the last two years in most areas of the world and the continued favorable prices for meat animals.

Because of relatively large feed supplies in many parts of the world and the expected increase in hog, cattle and sheep numbers, the outlook for an increase in 1950 meat production appears favorable and very probable. It is very likely that both prewar and 1949 production levels will be equalled or even exceeded in 1950. Most of the increase, however, will occur in pork production.

Recent hog slaughter survey of the principal producing countries indicates an increase of 14 percent in the 1949 inspected and commercial slaughter. Preliminary estimates for 1950 indicate an even larger increase than occurred in 1949. Present indications are that the world meat output in 1950, therefore, can be expected to add to the world food resources for the year.

Slightly increased meat supplies in many of the major producing countries in 1949, except in Canada, Argentina and New Zealand, can be expected to contribute somewhat more to the world food resources than was the case in 1948. Although meat supplies in Europe and the Soviet Union are significantly larger this year than those of last year, they are considerably below prewar quantities for their respective countries and are inadequate in view of an increasing population. Meat supplies in most of the other producing countries of the world, however, are substantially above their respective prewar levels. Larger quantities of meat from these countries will offset quantity-wise some of the deficiency occurring in meat consumption on the European continent and partially meet the growing demand in the meat-eating countries, due to an increasing population. While quantities of meat are larger, the per capita consumption in most countries has been dropping because of the greater population. In the principal exporting countries, on the other hand, the per capita consumption appears to have increased over that of 1948.

Domestically produced meat supplies in the importing countries in 1949 were supplemented to a lesser extent than last year by imports originating in South America, Oceania, and Canada. However, the exports to the United Kingdom, particularly from Denmark, Eire, Netherlands and Poland, were larger than in 1948. Some intra-European and South American movement of meat has undoubtedly occurred and has generally contributed to food supplies in some of the countries on these continents. The quantity of meat imported by many countries has fallen off in 1949

primarily due to larger domestic production and lack of foreign exchange. In these countries the quantity of meat available for consumption, however, is very substantially below their prewar consumption level.

Based on present indications, the 1950 demand for meat will continue to be large. It is evident that larger quantities of meat will be available for export from a few of the major exporting countries in 1950. In view of the anticipated improvement in the supply situation, the major importing countries and other countries deficient in meat supplies may be able to increase their meat consumption by importing larger quantities, particularly if funds are available for that purpose.

More than two-thirds of the increase in the 1949 meat production of 2.9 billion pounds occurred in Europe, exclusive of the Soviet Union. Notwithstanding the sizeable gain, European production is still around 25 percent below prewar. Although meat supplies were more abundant in all of these countries, the largest increases in production, however, took place in the United Kingdom, Denmark, Netherlands, France and probably in Italy and Poland.

With regard to the European exporting countries, Denmark almost doubled its exports of meats in 1949 over 1948, but these were less than one-half of prewar. Eire, also, increased its exports some over the preceding year and they are now less than one-half of the prewar level. At the same time, relatively large numbers of fat and store cattle were exported to the United Kingdom in 1949 and canned meat exports were resumed the latter part of the year. Poland, during the year, has increased her exports of bacon and ham over those of 1948. Such exports are now believed to be approaching one-half of their prewar level.

The United Kingdom, principal importer of meat, had a considerably higher domestic meat production in 1949 than in any previous year since 1941. Substantial increases in livestock numbers, reflecting an improved feed situation, have supported a higher slaughter rate and materially augmented meat supplies from domestic sources. Nevertheless, these supplies are about three-quarter billion pounds below the 1936-38 level.

Meat imports into the United Kingdom in 1949 apparently were somewhat below those of 1948. Although exports to United Kingdom from Netherlands, Denmark, Eire, Uruguay, Argentina, Paraguay and Poland increased, the exports from Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Brazil and Chile fell off during the year. Reduction in the overall imports in 1949 was more than offset by the substantial increase in domestic production. As a result, United Kingdom actually had more meat available for domestic consumption in 1949 than in the preceding year. This also was evidenced by slight liberalization of rations.

The quantity of meat produced and available for consumption in

North America in 1949 was slightly larger than in 1948. Canadian exports during the year were about one-half of those in 1948 and the reduction in exports was much larger than the drop in production. This would indicate that domestic consumption apparently was larger than the preceding year. Bacon shipments to the United Kingdom have been decreasing annually and the 1950 contract calls for 60 million pounds, considerably below the estimated 100 million pounds delivered in 1949. Also, the 1950 contract is for a 6-month period from January through June of this year. United States production, on the other hand, was somewhat larger in 1949 than in 1948. Exports increased substantially in 1949 while imports dropped off considerably. The total supply of meat, however, was more plentiful than in the preceding year. Larger quantities are likely in 1950, reflecting the larger pork production anticipated for the year. Mexican meat production is believed to have remained relatively stable, but exports doubled due to the meat-canning program carried on there.

South American meat production was slightly larger in 1949 than a year earlier. This increase occurred primarily in Uruguay with some gain in Brazil. Production in Argentina was less than the preceding year and exports also were proportionately lower in 1949. Uruguay apparently was the only country to increase its exports over the preceding year but such increase was not sufficient to offset the drop in South American exports. Consequently, somewhat larger quantities of meat were consumed in the South American countries in 1949.

Meat production in the Southern Dominions of the Union of South Africa and Australia showed minor gains, while the output in New Zealand fell off slightly in 1949. Exports from Australia increased somewhat, but a drop in New Zealand exports more than offset the gain. As a result, Australia and New Zealand possibly had slightly more meat for domestic consumption in 1949 than in the preceding year. Drought in the Union of South Africa forced some liquidation and temporarily provided a substantial increase in meat for home consumption and export, but a somewhat smaller meat supply is expected in 1950.

MEAT ^{1/}: Production, net trade and consumption, prewar,
and estimated production and export supplies, 1949

C o u n t r y	P r e w a r ^{2/}				Preliminary 1949	
	Pro-	Net	Net	Apparent	Pro-	Gross
	duction	exports	imports	consumption	duction	exports
	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
Canada.....	1,417	168		1,223	1,950	200
Mexico.....	698		1	699	1,019	185
United States.....	16,182		65	16,303	22,000	150
Cuba.....	309		4	313	400	
Austria.....	617		13	630	470	
Belgium.....	693		48	741	644	
Bulgaria.....	337	6		331		
Czechoslovakia.....	944	^{3/}		944	780	
Denmark. ^{4/}	1,105	605		504	866	275
Eire.....	336	71		265	310	35
Finland.....	254	5		249		
France.....	3,762		48	3,714	3,570	
Germany-Bizone.....	3,510				1,900	
Greece.....	208		3	211	170	
Hungary.....	538	18		520		
Italy.....	1,542		115	1,657	1,625	
Luxembourg.....	40				33	
Netherlands.....	894	65		829	565	40
Norway.....	223		2	225	184	
Poland.....	2,450				1,725	40
Portugal.....	290		^{3/}	290	305	
Rumania.....	657	6		651		
Sweden.....	649	16		633	646	
Switzerland.....	419		17	436	331	
United Kingdom.....	2,850		3,422	6,272	2,060	
Yugoslavia.....	888	19		869		
Soviet Union.....	7,292		3	7,295		
Turkey.....						
Argentina ^{5/}	4,459	1,460		2,999	4,950	1,350
Brazil ^{6/}	2,216	213		2,003	2,850	100
Chile.....	349	18		331	420	6
Paraguay ^{7/}	167	16		151	240	40
Uruguay ^{6/}	571	324		247	575	275
Union of S. Africa	671		6	677	960	
Australia.....	2,202	521		1,680	2,162	495
New Zealand.....	1,024	600		424	1,155	745

^{1/} Carcass meat basis. includes beef and veal, pork, mutton and lamb, goat and horse meat. Excludes edible offal and lard. ^{2/} Prewar is average years for 1935-39 for United States, Canada, Sweden and Denmark; 1936-38 for New Zealand and United Kingdom; 1936 for Czechoslovakia, 1938 for Poland and Soviet Union; and 1934-38 principally for other countries. ^{3/} Less than 500,000 pounds. ^{4/} Includes c.w.e. of live cattle exported. ^{5/} Excludes farm production and consumption of pork. ^{6/} Excludes farm production. ^{7/} Beef and veal only. Prewar estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to present boundaries.

EGGS

Egg production in 1949 in the principal producing countries ^{1/} for which reports were available is indicated at approximately 5 percent over 1948 and gains of approximately 3 to 5 percent can be expected for 1950. Rationing and marketing regulations on eggs were almost completely dispensed with during the past year and better distribution of eggs for consumption can be expected as current large increases in production are largely in deficit areas.

The 1949 world egg production was about one-fifth above the 1934-38 prewar average. This was mainly accounted for by the 56 billion eggs produced in the United States which was a 50 percent increase over the past ten years. This sizeable increase heavily influenced the world comparison as it represented a production eight times larger than that of any other country and was approximately one-half of all reported egg production.

Important increases in production were made in Western Europe in 1949, where the demand for eggs was strong. More readily available feed supplies and favorable egg-feed price relationships encouraged production. Much of the achievement in the egg supply is the result of an increased rate of lay per hen made possible by government assistance in many of the countries in providing better and healthier chicks and by larger feed supplies.

Egg production in 1949 exceeded prewar in Belgium, Denmark, United States, France, Sweden and Switzerland and at least four more countries should be added to this list in 1950. Mediterranean and Southern European countries reported less pronounced increases.

Egg prices almost without exception declined in 1949, but the increase in grain supplies caused some decline in the price of feed.

Denmark, Ireland, the Netherlands, Hungary, Belgium and China have returned to an export status. Thus it appears the United Kingdom will be able to get almost its entire supply from the sterling area in 1950. This will deprive the United States and Canada of much of their recently acquired dried and shell egg export market in 1950.

This is the first year the United Kingdom has not granted an egg contract to Canada since 1941. Trade in eggs and egg products during 1950 should be somewhat lighter than in 1949 and exist mainly within the sterling area.

The United States and Canada are the only countries concerned with unsalable surpluses. They increased their egg production during World War II to offset a smaller output of eggs by European countries which have now barely revived their output and also wish not to buy from dollar countries.

^{1/} Excludes U. S. S. R. and China.

EGGS ^{1/}: Number produced in specified countries,
average 1934-38, annual 1946-1949

C o u n t r i e s	Average 1934-38	1946	1947	1948	Indi- cated 1949
	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions
NORTH AMERICA:					
Canada.....	2,638	3,883	4,484	4,279	3,551
Panama.....	-	-	52	-	-
United States.....	35,498	55,590	55,252	55,168	55,500
Cuba.....	320	300	288	276	264
Dominican Republic.....	-	60	60	-	-
EUROPE:					
Albania.....	143	-	-	-	-
Austria.....	663	270	285	350	380
Belgium.....	1,693	1,100	1,380	1,440	1,530
Bulgaria.....	682	-	-	-	-
Czechoslovakia.....	1,958	776	903	1,110	1,380
Denmark.....	1,979	883	995	1,563	1,860
Eire.....	1,086	801	733	920	1,080
Finland.....	317	93	117	-	-
France.....	6,200	6,200	6,300	6,100	6,500
Germany.....	6,535	-	-	-	-
Greece.....	550	349	376	367	350
Hungary.....	1,050	-	650	750	-
Italy.....	5,600	3,600	4,300	4,450	4,550
Luxembourg.....	40	-	30	35	35
Netherlands.....	1,978	480	1,052	1,280	1,540
Norway.....	369	155	198	263	330
Poland and Danzig.....	3,500	2,276	-	-	-
Portugal.....	250	-	-	-	-
Rumania.....	1,500	2/ 532	-	-	-
Spain.....	1,700	-	1,992	1,800	-
Sweden.....	900	1,149	1,217	1,335	1,670
Switzerland.....	423	391	442	520	559
United Kingdom - Farm 3/ 4/	3,871	2,418	2,600	3,000	3,500
Total 3/ 4/	5,098	3,850	4,000	4,300	5,000
Yugoslavia.....	1,000	-	-	-	-
ASIA:					
Lebanon.....	-	65	60	48	-
Palestine.....	108	200	-	-	-
Syria.....	92	120	90	110	-
Turkey.....	1,003	863	895	-	-
China.....	-	-	-	-	-
Japan.....	3,553	936	-	-	-
India.....	-	2,794	-	-	-
Pakistan.....	-	571	-	-	-
Philippine Islands.....	-	-	-	250	-

(Continued)

(Continued)

EGGS 1/: Number produced in specified countries,
average 1934-38, annual 1946-1949

Countries	Average 1934-38	1946	1947	1948	Indi- cated 1949
	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions
<u>SOUTH AFRICA:</u>					
Argentina.....	1,127	-	-	-	-
Brazil.....	-	-	-	2,160	-
Chile.....	-	520	460	370	-
Paraguay.....	-	-	100	-	-
Uruguay.....	289	358	326	-	-
<u>AFRICA:</u>					
Egypt.....	751	-	-	-	-
French Morocco.....	1,000	-	-	-	-
Union of South Africa..	5/	-	372	-	-
<u>OCEANIA:</u>					
Australia 6/.....	708	1,358	1,470	1,434	1,440
New Zealand.....	430	-	-	-	-

1/ Relates to farm production in Canada and the United States, but data for many countries not explicit on this point.

2/ 53 countries.

3/ Year ending in May of year indicated.

4/ 3-year average.

5/ Not available.

6/ Commercial production.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States Foreign Service officers, results of office research, and other information. Data relate to grower boundaries, unless otherwise noted.

